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Who are history's most loathed politicians

### The perils of unpopularity

G2 with European weather



Post-punk novelist Kathy Acker

### Leaping the boundaries of sex

nterview G2 pages 12/13



Education

### Can New Labour bag the NUS?

Feat food restaurants McDonald's, Wimpy, Burger King, Wendy's. g Co-op supermarkets. Several others like Somerfield have promised refunds to customers returning beef products.
the Association of Metropolitien Authorities and Lancashir

**Against** 

Europe bans British cattle 

Cabinet opts for no new action 

More CJD cases emerge

# Ministers defy beef outcry

### Children under 'no greater threat'

Patrick Wintour.

E Governmen last night attempted to brazer out the gathering crisis over beef, rejecting plans to that international confidence in the industry will be restored and the Treasury saved from huge compense-

As the Government dug in its heels to defend the farming industry — and the poten-tial for pre-election tax-cuts Europe on a vote of 14 to one in favour of an immediate indefinite prohibition on all British cattle imports. John Major last night ex-ressed his "astonishment" at the EU's ban to European Commission president, Jaes Santer, who later said o reconsider the evidence.

On the foreign exchanges the impact of the BSE crisis drove down sterling amid a sumer confidence, with three more burger chains, includ-ing Burger King, announcing they were dropping British beef from their menus. The Government's scientific advisers revealed another two of the suspected new

Plans for a mass cull, sup-ported by the Agriculture Minister, Douglas Hogg, were rejected yesterday at a meet-ing of a Cabinet committee, chaired by the Prime Minis-ter. The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, warned that compen-sation claims from British

strain of CJD.



A deserted Hereford cattle market yesterday morning which would normally be thriving

restored by the release yesterday of a report from govern-ment scientific advisers that ment scientific advisers that children were no more likely to suffer BSE than adults. Ministers also argued that a mass slaughter before the European Union position had been clarified might jeopardise future British claims for

EU compensation. Last night the Consumers' Association accused the Gov-ernment of failing to reassure the public over the possible dangers of eating beef and beef-derived products. "The Government's advice has done nothing to answer the farmers might cost billions.

Ministers mounted a holding operation hoping shattered confidence could be key consumer concerns about Mr Hogg attacked the EU ban beef-derived products. "The drastic mass slaughter and the first mounted a holding operation hoping shattered confidence could be key consumer concerns about Mr Hogg attacked the EU ban trols were fully implemented

beef," said director Shella as unnecessary, but, reflect-ing the pressure from British beef farmers, appeared to ac-largest supermarket chain, cept he would consider a largest supermarket chain, criticised the Government response as "deficient" and called for a selective slaugh-

ter of cattle. The Health Vistors' Association accused the Government of putting its own interests above children's' health. in separate statements in the Commons, Mr Hogg and the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, rejected calls for

Oliver Stone

shuns Oscar

large-scale slaughter if confi-dence was not restored in the

In bitter Commons ex-changes, Mr Dorrell pointed to the judgment, released yes-terday, of the Government's own Spongiform Ecephalopathy Advisory Committee that "it does not believe the additional measures are justi-fied at this stage".

"any BSE-related risk from eating beef or beef products is likely to be extremely small". He insisted the SEAC findings meant there was no case for a ban on British beef from

hamburger chains to con-tinue to use British beef. However, private polls conducted for the McDonald's chain over the weekend show 60 per cent refusal to eat Brit-ish beef, double the resistance to British eggs during the sal-monella scare.

school menus, and urged the

The shadow health secre-tary, Harriet Harman, faced Tory accusations of "talking down British beef" when she

accused ministers of "reck-1 beef as "outrageous and I new strain of fatal brain disless disregard for public totally unjustified. health" and blamed the "dogma" of deregulation for having swept the country into

At the weekend Mr Hogg appeared to open the door to a slaughter of at least 4.5 million cows older than 30 months out of Britain's 11 million-strong herd, but in-dustry critics said the move would be premature, worsen the trade deficit, create a milk drought and possibly force the importation of continen-tal herds also carrying BSR.

The chief veterinary officers of all 15 member states 14 to one in favour of imple menting the European Com-

mission's recommendation.

The ban extends not just to meat, including veal, but also byproducts used in pharma-

On other pages

THE Government yesterday produced tough

the panic over mad cow

disease. Ministers de-

cided to go back to bed

and pull up the covers. See Simon Hoggart's sketch,

Beef crisis, pages 4-5 Comment, letters, page 8

Hugo Young and John

Poultry prices soar, and

City Notebook, page 11

Gray, page 9

IS BORING. ALL YOU CARE

ABOUT IS CETTING COOP

VALUE FOR MONEY

human version of disease", were under 10 when John Pattison, chairman of the government expert panel, said yesterday.
Two other suspected cases of young people with the dis-

### ease were being studied by the committee. Both were Some of the victims of the seriously ill.

### **Artificial heart** patient dies

Edward Pilkington

MAN whose doctors claimed he was the first patient in the world to be fitted with a permanent electric heart has died, 30 hours after the batterypowered pump was removed from his body.
Surgeons at the John Rad-cliffe Hospital, Oxford, oper-ated on Abel Goodman on Sat-

urday to take out the device after signs of internal bleeding. The patient's own heart had shown a "remarkable recovery" since the implant five months ago and was con-sidered capable of working However Mr Goodman.

Sunday night. He suffered a "sudden and unpredictable" change in heart rhythm and could not be resuscitated. He leaves a wife and two

Mr Goodman's death is a blow for the hospital, which the new procedure having has been trying to develop an turn to page 2, column 3

night to visit Zapatistas electronically-powered heart as an alternative to human lan Katz in New York

donor organs, which are in short supply. The device's ap-parent failure is likely to

As HOLLYWOOD'S cho-displays of delighted amazement and dignified raise questions about its long-term prospects.

Mr Goodman died four days after a similar mechanical heart was implanted in an-other man at the John Raddisappointment yesterday, director Oliver Stone delivered his own Oscar speech far from the Academy cliffe Hospital. The patient, who has not been identified, was described yesterday as "stable and satisfactory". "You are great warriors for change and peace," he declared. "Wherever there

When Mr Goodman's titaare human beings in the nium heart was implanted last October his surgeon, world we will respect what you are trying to do." Stephen Westaby, said he Nixon, was nominated for could expect a normal life. "There is no reason why he four awards, was not talk-ing about his film-making colleagues. He was refer-ring to the guerrillas of Mexico's Zapatista should not be back riding a bike," Mr Westaby said. However, Mr Goodman was

National Liberation Army,

plagued by infections, exacer-bated by the fact that the re-chargeable batterles were in a belt outside his body. He with whom he planned to spend Oscar night. "You, the Zapatistas, are never returned home. Mr Goodman, a retired film producer, volunteered to try not little men, you are giants, the director told a group of the guerrillas who



Movie-maker meets Mayan rebels PHOTOGRAPH: ORIANA ELICABI

sas. With your presence you have raised the spirits of all of us," Tacho, one of the rebel leaders, replied. pig which starred in the Australian film Babe were expected to be the most prominent absentees from last night's ceremony.

The director of Platoon, JFK and Natural Born Killers planned to trek to a remote area in the Chiapas jungle to meet Subcom- Year's Day uprising. welcomed him to the town

mander Marcos, the Zapatistas' masked, pipe-smok-ing military leader. Nixon's nominations in-clude best actor, best sup-porting actress and best original screenplay but Mr Some was not shortlisted

for his directing and the film flopped commercially.

Mr Stone's entourage of 18 included two scriptwiters, prompting speculation that he may be planning a film on the Zapatistas' 1994 New

#### clears her name over drugs ban

sport's governing body dropped all charges against

her.
Modahi, aged 29, spent 2500,000 proving her innocence after being banned four years in 1994. She tested positive for unusually high levels of the male hormone

Yesterday the International tion for £480,000 damages said she was "delighted" by the decision, adding: "It has

Report, page 16

### Inside

Bristol, a reformed drug addict, is selling paintings and furniture to relieve himself of financial burdens.

**World News** Indian police and

negotiators were trying to persude more than two dozen separatist militante to leave Kashmir's holiest shrine.

thwarting NatWest's earlier bid.

The Halifax said it had agreed buy life assurers Clerical Medical for £800 million.

Sport Ray Illingworth is: expected to step down as England's manager, leaving Lord's to find a

new man to shape

English cricket

### nment and Letters 8 Obituaries 10 vord 15: Weather 16: Radio 16; TV 16

# Diane Modahl

scribed EU ban on British

Stephen Blerley in Cape Town

THE British athlete Diane Modahl yesterday won a 19-month fight to clear her name of drug taking when the

in Lisbon

Amateur Athletic Federation accepted that there was "grave concern" about the way the drug testing was con-ducted. Modahl, who is suing the British Athletic Federabeen a costly fight - and not





"I wanted fully comp for my car.

I didn't have a big budget.

AA insurance came up frumps.

It costs less than you think

# leaves bad taste



Simon Hoggart

HE Government yester-day produced tough new measures to fight the panic over mad cow disease. Ministers decided to go back to bed and pull up the covers. It was weirdly reminiscent

of that moment which helped destroy the last Labour gov-ernment, when Jim Callaghan returned home amid corpses and garbage in the streets, and declared: "I see no sign of mounting crisis. As the world bans British beef, as ancient British firms such as Wimpy ban British beef, as the beef industry faces

final collapse, the Govern-ment's rallying call to public confidence is: "Trust us, we're politicians. It seems the folks who gave us Black Wednesday, the doubled crime rate and Yorkshire Water, have come up with their masterpiece: an incurable illness which turns

your brain to sponge. Yet the only glimmer of emotion any of them showed yesterday was when they furlously accused Labour of mak-ing party political capital

from the crisis. The Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, in a statement both peevish and com-placent, denounced Labour MPs for "the worst kind of scaremongering — ferreting around in the sewer of party political advantage."

You'd think that BSE was some terrible act of God which had nothing to do with them. like the harsh winter, or the Duchess of York, But why tage from their dithering. their cowardice, their arrogant dishonesty? What else is an Opposition for?

(The really odious thing about the former Agriculture Minister John Gummer feeding a hamburger to his daughter in 1990 was the way it reflected their Saatchi & Saatchi culture the way they believe there is no

First night

Judith Mackrell

La Sylphide, Scottish Ballet Festival Theatre, Edinburgh

sylph, the supernatural beauty who inflames the

giving them a taste for the sub

lime, makes it impossible for them to live in the real world.

Taglioni's ballet La Syl-phide launched the craze for

these white-frocked spirits in

1832, and although the version we now mostly see is Bour-

nonville's (choreographed four years later) the sense of

It's vividly present in the women's delicate dancing, full

of runs and hops on half pointe. It's in the character of

the Sylph, a transparent inno-cent who flies up to a treetop to

gather a bird's nest for her lover and weeps when he hesi-tates to swear his love. It's in

the ballet's touching manners

when James agrees to follow

the Sylph she hands him his tartan bonnet to put on before

he rushes ardently after her. It's also in the fairytale moral-

ity—the witch Madge will surely manipulate James's downfall because he turns her away from his fireside.

The temptation for 20th-cen

tury dancers is to beef up the

dancing or camp up the story. But in Sorella Englund's pro-

duction. Scottish Ballet do

neither. Maria Teresa Del

Real is tenderly in character

as a child, while Campbell McKenzie's James is suscep-

as the Sylphide, eager and soft

tible, stupid and anguished in

the right ways, Robin Bernadet as Gurn is the unexpected

period is no less potent

senses of men and then, by

HE archetypal heroine of Romantic ballet is the

be solved by a PR man and a photo opportunity.) Peter Mandelson made a

are on-the-record intervention, and he must have startled some of his multitudinous enemies with a question of real anger and passion. (He blamed the crisis on obsessional deregulation. The term "real anger" may be an exag-geration, but it was certainly a good, vegetable oil, version of

real anger.) Michael Heseltine replied that the question was "contemptible, even by his standards" — proof once again that ministers just don't understand what is happening

Mr Dorrell's oddest contrioution was a petulant remark that "It is no good saying that it is unnatural for one species to eat the remains of another; that is what the meat in-

dustry is all about." No, minister, the objection is that cattle are vegetarian by nature. You might as well use the same argument to feed

your children hay. Bizarrely, he and his colleagues persistently repeated that all human activities include a measure of risk, as if eating beef were on a par with

bungee jumping. Angela Eagle (Labour, Wal-lasey) was told scornfully that Mr Dorrell would rather take advice from Sir Richard Southwood, who wrote the first BSE report, than from her. Could this be the same Six Richard Southwood who has accused the Government of allowing, through its compla-cency, the "nightmare sce-nario" to occur?

Tory MPs lined up like dis-

eased sheep behind their mas-ters. One accused Labour of "hypochondriachal hysteria": let's hope he never gets into the food chain. Another said McDonald's was endangering the public by importing dan-gerous continental beef. Harriet Harman was called a "stupid cow" by Tony "Von" Marlow — so performing the miracle of making some Labour MPs feel almost sympathetic to her.

Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, was little bet-ter. The thought of him elbow pleasing one, though not at all

The real problem is that we just don't think that these

star — a beautiful jumper and defi comic actor — and Robert Hampton's Madge is a credi-

Everybody's mime was im-

peccable, and this production

should be a persuasive argu-

ment for other companies to perform this neglected

man's life in the libretto for Stravinsky's ballet Le Baiser

de la Fee, but in Mark Bal-

dwin's version Ae Fond Kiss

the story survives only as an erotic modus vivendi, a group

Baldwin has recently been appointed Scottish Ballet's

of women playing teasing games with their partners.

Resident Choreographer.

which is a smart move since

rapher has a natural reust to ballet. He's unselfconscious about exploiting the lan-guage's familiar pleasures, making plumply cushioned phrases and exquisitely stitched stone but other

moves are entirely his own witty invention. All are knit

together with effortless musi-cality, and Baldwin keeps the

dance-pressure rising and ris-ing as he plays with the score

— massing groups in the qui-etest passages then letting a single dancer ride the cli-

maxes. He also subverts the

couples' games when they get too intent — sliding parodical-ly-pumped biceps and pin-up

choreography.
This is a piece for Scottish

to treasure — even though Daria Klimentova and Vladis-

lav Bubnov performed it, dis-

appointingly, like a set plece.

as if nervous of its marvellous

danceability and wicked fun.

girl poses into the

stitched steps, but other

this modern-trained choreog-

rapher has a natural relish for

A fairy also wrecks a young

bly dotty old woman who turns gauntly malevolent.

smooth as Sylph

### Auditor's report names ex-mayor as corruption scandal over letting of market pitches is disclosed

## Tory petulance £1m Petticoat Lane scam

ket will be revealed of a £1 million bribery and corruption scandal over the letting of dozens of lucrative pitches that bring in the busiest markets in the 2300,000 a year each for the lucky stallholders.

In a plot that might do

An auditor's report will accuse the London borough of Tower Hamiets of "systematic and rife corruption" in run-ning its Petticost Lane and Brick Lane markets, famous

as tourist attractions. The obtain a pitch for herself. She report names the former Lib-was found to have been eral Democrat mayor, Jeremy HE world-famous the illegal sub-letting of stalls
Petticost Lane maring bribes from people to get hold of pitches where they earn £1,000 a day. Traders can

wait up to 12 years before they can get a pitch at one of In a plot that might do credit to EastEnders, the auditors confirm that one former Liberal Democrat coun-cillor, Betty Wright, used her

79-year-old "aunt", Hetty Hart, as a cover to illegally

to keep the pitch.

Her use of the stall pro-voked complaints from other traders, which led to an inde-pendent inquiry and a decision to refer the whole matter to the district auditor. The auditor, Kash Pandya. will today trace how the coun-

cil, which used to make £250,000 a year profit from its six markets — Petticoat Lane, Brick Lane, and markets in Roman Way, Whitechapel, Bethnal Green and Toynbee Street, Stepney — into a £1.5 million loss in the 1990s.

mate expenditure on adminis-tration of the markets. However, he finds evidence of rife and systematic corruption and abuse of the system in

ing £1 million loss. The report backs up an independent inquiry by John Hendy, QC, in 1991, which accused Mr Shaw, Mrs Wright and another former councillor, John Snooks, of allowing stallholders in markets throughout the East End

connection with the remain-

Shaw of helping Mrs Wright to keep her pitch. It said that Mr Shaw had

instructed Richard Ward, a former chief executive of the council who had led the anticorruption campaign, not to oppose Mrs Wright's appeal against revocation of her

so that, among other things, those who have cynically abused their positions are no

prompt and decisive action

obtain a pitch for herself. She | Of that loss, the auditor man of the markets panel, councillors, was disbanded was found to have been finds that £500,000 was legitiand accused him and Mr and an independent panel of and an independent panel of lawyers set up to decide on licence revocations.

The lawyers have been meeting regularly since 1992 to deal with claims against traders. Out of 600 cases of allegedly illegal trading. 95 licences have been revoked and another 200 are being considered. The number of licences allocated in the last three years is estimated at 22. The report demanded

The report stops short of surcharging councillors but demands that Tower Hamlets to sub-let pitches illegally. longer able to do so." council readjust its accounts

The independent inquiry The report points out that to compensate for the £1 mulcriticised Mr Snooks, chair the markets panel, made up of lion loss to ratepayers. council readjust its accounts





### Player tells of tragedy in scrum

John Duncan and Clare Dyer

moment he knew his neck was broken.

Mr Smoldon, who had sore neck after the scrums Delicate dancing had repeatedly collapsed, was taking part in only his third scrum of the afternoon when the incident happened.

the incident happened.

"As we went down for the scrummage, I can remember that I was leaning down to my left-hand side and I then felt a blow on my neck," said Mr Smoldon. "At this point, I thought I was winded. I blacked out for a second. I then called out as I was alarmed at what happened and as the scrum broke up I was still in a crouching

position.

"My body sprang back and I was left hanging with my arm around the neck of my tight head prop. I remember my head prop. I remember my hand moving away from his body and just falling down to the floor on my back. My lags had become totally numb."

Mr Smoldon, aged 21, for-mer captain of Sutton Coldfield under-19 Colts, is suing the referee Michael Nolan for allegedly failing properly to control a game against Bur-ton on Trent in October 1991. He is also citing Thomas Whitworth whom he blames for causing the injury. Both

game the laws were persistently contravened and ig-

continued from page 1 been told he was too old for a conventional transplant and that he had six months to live. After the implant he said: "I

had nothing to lose from this. It seemed the only way forward — there was no choice."

He was the fourth patient to

die in Britain after being im-

planted with an electronic

heart. The other three were

all treated at Papworth Hospi-tal, Cambridge, which yester-day condemned the John Rad-

cliffe, accusing it of "hype".

John Wallwork, a heart surgeon who has led Cam-

bridge's research in this field, said that, contrary to media reports, it was Papworth that had pioneered the first im-

something, someone in the front row of the scrummage Mr Smoldon, who had moved from the wing to hooker because the regular hooker was complaining of a hooker was complaining of a

A spectator had also com-mented afterwards that, in

By the time he was injured, and the game abandoned, there had been up to 25 col-lapsed scrums, said Mr Smoldon, way above the average in his experience. He said he did not recall any steps taken by the referee to control the game or him speaking to the two front rows about produc-

tight head prop, was generally aggressive in the scrums, said Mr Smoldon, and appeared to be wrestling with his opposite number.

However, Mr Smoldon con-ceded under cross examina-tion that he was in no posi-tion to claim that somebody had deliberately collapsed the scrum.
The case, which is likely to

in such a situation and will have wide implications for

The hearing continues

EN SMOLDON, the rugby player who is suing a referee and an opponent for £1 million after being paralysed in a scrum, yesterday described to the High Court the moment he knew his neck

respect of the scrum collaps-ing, he had never seen a game

ing a stable scrummage.
Mr Whitworth, Burton's

last two weeks, is believed to be the first time in England

Whitworth whom he blames for causing the injury. Both deny liability.

"Unfortunately in this which insures referees.

**Heart patient dies** 



## Rugby heads 'dangerous' sports

John Duncan reports on a game which has the highest risk of 'substantive injury'

UGBY is the most dan-Regerous of sports
played in Britain, according to the Sports

The most complete study into sports injuries, com-missioned by the council in 1991 and conducted by the University of Sheffield, found that rugby had the highest risk of "substantive injury", and was three times more dangerous than

any other sport.
The survey, conducted among 28,000 people aged 16.45, defined substantive injury as those which were potentially serious or needed freatment or restricted the person from taking part in their normal activities. It found 50 substantive injuries occurred for every 1,000 occasions of participation in rugby.

There were 15 incidents per 1,000 for soccer. According to Greg McLatchie, director of the National Sports Medicine

rugby, particularly the dis-location of the spine. They are not common — perhaps eight to 12 cases per year." The collapse of the scrum, Institute and consultant eral Hospital, rugby holds two main areas of danger:

the tackle and the scrum. He said: "In any contact sport where people are running into each other it's very difficult to avoid some

deliberate or accidental, was the worst offender in this regard, he said. "Front row forwards are in great danger, with their fore-

catastrophic injuries that arched. But the governing cause so much concern in bodies have really made an effort to eliminate this from the game by making it against the rules to deliberately collapse a scrum."
Professor McLatchie's

work in karate in the 1970s helped reduce injuries by 60 per cent over 10 years. Similar work is being done in rugby by John Davies, consultant to the Weish ning into each other it's heads on the floor, other consultant to the Welsh very difficult to avoid some forwards pressing from be-Rugby Union and a sports form of injury, but it is the hind and their backs injury specialist.

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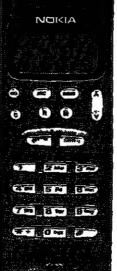


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#### Reformed drug addict cutting his losses and leaving ancestral home

Angella Johnson

HE seventh Marquess of Bristol is selling the contents of his private apartments at his ancestral home for an expected £1 million. after having squandered his fortune, his land and at one point his liberty. The reformed drug addict,

who is 41, served a 10-month

prison sentence for possessing cocaine and heroin two years ago. He has asked Sotheby's to handle the auction of paintings and furniture from the east wing of Ickworth, near Bury St Edmunds,

Suffolk. He says he can no longer

plant of a permanent artificial heart 18 months ago. Previ-ously, such implants were temporary devices for patients awaiting donor organs. "The only difference between what we did and what Oxford has done is in the type of pump used. They had a Vauxhall Cavalier, we had a

Ford Mondeo - so what?" Mr afford the financial burden of the 60-room wing in which he has lived as a tenant of the National Trust.

Papwork said.

Papwork said. August 1994. He returned



Abel Goodman in hospital last month PHOTOGRAPH: JOEL CHAN

home for several months, but | of heart patients with the us suffered complications and died nine months later.

Mr Wallwork said that Mr Goodman's death underlined the need for a proper trial to evaluate the effectiveness of the experimental procedure "It's clearly not a cure-all, but then it cannot be dismissed as useless either — the bottom line is, we do not know."

of mechanical hearts. A further trial is expected to start soon in the United States.

Research in America is version of the device, which will haive the cost of each pump to £30,000 and reduce the risk of infection by being located wholly inside the

Papworth is planning to Mr Westaby is expected to conduct a Europe-wide trial make a statement this comparing medical treatment | morning.

She admin

## Labour left group to resist Blair

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

IGNS of rank-and-file tion of Tony Blair's leadership of the Labour Party emerged yesterday, when a new leftwing group of activists - Labour Reform — was established designed to check

The 100-strong group wants to stop the party being so reorganised that it does not have the constitutional power to resist a Blair-led government. The group was to resist a property to the constitutional power to resist a Blair-led government. ment. The group was born out of the so-called Summer of Discontent last year, when many party activists, including MPs like Richard Burden, voiced concern at the alleged centralisation of power under Mr Blair.

'Rightwing radicals are constructing a populist model in opposition to the party's traditions'

The avowedly anti-metro-politan group, which includes many Labour councillors, claims the party and the lead-ership have been drifting apart, and that small groups of rightwing radicals are "constructing a populist ple-biscitary model for the party in complete opposition to its

The group, bound to be dismissed by the leadership as unrepresentative, fear that Mr Blair is trying to build a mass-membership party and then seek endorsement for his changes through referendums

of the membership.
In particular, they warn:
'In the US, politics has become an affair run by professional politicisms to benefit professional politicians. Ordinary people have been educed to voting fodder." Labour Reform is also

bound to be seen as a counterweight to Progress, the young activists' network set up by young Blairite radicals, incluing Derek Draper, the former assistant to Peter Mandelson. Andy Howell, Labour Reform's chairman and incisire to see an active party, which is engaged in policy consultation with its own members and the political education of the electorate.

We see ourselves as the party and government in office and the best insurance against a Labour government being blown off course by the London-based establishment

He said it was ironic that, despite information technology, the mass membership of the Labour party were con-sulted less and informed less

about party policy.

The first four studies to be undertaken by Labour

Reform are:

A review of the constitutional base of the National Policy Forum and of methods of regeneration of constituency parties. They fear that local parties are becoming little more than social and fund-raising organisations.

Reform of the National Ex-

ecutive Committee, to ensure that it remains responsive to the party membership in the country and supportive of a Labour government. The party leadership is already considering a radical restruc-turing of the NEC when Labour is is in government. ☐ Support for a positive role for local government in the

party.

| The creation of an open de-bate on constitutional reform within the party, in which Labour Reform will insist that the party must not drift into becoming a supporters' club, rather than a full partic-

ipative party. Leaders of Labour Reform insist that they are not inspired by animosity towards
Mr Blair, or drawn from either the extreme left or right of the party. The group accepts that Labour cannot go back to the error of eletic core. back to the era of cloth caps and smoke-filled rooms.

But they complain in the group's first newsletter that Labour is "becoming trapped in a sterile debate between traditionalists and modernisers. The options for the party are polarised between standing still or adopting the agenda of a London-based elite".

They claim many party members would prefer to avoid another bout of internal reform before the election.
But they argue that, because
the Blair leadership has no
intention of slowing the pace,
this creates a need for Labour dentally the son of the former the Blair leadership has no line that the paction of slowing the slowin





William Winde's arcaded terrace of 1850 at Cliveden, with the Borghese balustrade which the first Viscount Astor bought in Rome in 1896

## Cashing in on betrayal and bootleg sex

Where Hitler's henchman was feted, and the war minister dallied with a call-girl

John Ezard on a







Ghosts of Cliveden (from left): Oswald Moseley, John Profumo, Christine Keeler

fascist leader Oswald Mosley. An historian of the Times, which was also indant and London ambassador, von Ribbentrop, was a
favoured pre-war guest at
Cliveden, as was the British

tory". Or, at Cliveden, you tain your mistress and fel-could relax by sleeping low-roisterers. "He had all the pleasures of the flesh and chase in mind", the brochure admits. Clive-den's 20th century dynast, the US millionaire landlord lyny 1961.

July 1961. Mr Profumo subsequently spent 30 years as a poverty fund-raiser reha-bilitating himself after the scandal, which helped to bring down the Conserva-

tive government in 1964.

The girl, Christine Keeler, who was naked beside the pool when she met Profumo and Lord Astor, later wrote: "It was embar-rassing to be formally in-troduced to ladies in tiaras and evening dresses". Or you could — as did Cli-

expeditions and little monsters

ture, today's guests get an-other touch of nostalgia. In the men's loo, they can find portraits of Ms Keeler, her companion Mandy Rice-Davies, and nearby, for no clear reason, a picture of the Duke of Edinburgh. On a table beside these is a bottle of mouth wash, put there to symbolise Clive-den's place in the history of

Waldorf Astor, started in the way he meant his suc-

cessors to go on by building a colossal voluptuous foun-

tain of love in front of the

For their huge expendi-

### Spheres of influence

Campaign Group

The Campaign Group of Socialist MPs is around 30 strong, but has an outside network and a monthly news-paper which can legitimately claim it has enough influence to help hard-left MPs such as Dennis Skinner and Dianne Abbott win election to the National Executive Committee. The role of Campaign Group MPs, including some of its brighter advocates such as Alan Simpson and Ken Livingstone, will increase in the event of Labour winning only a small majority at the next

Labour Co-ordinating

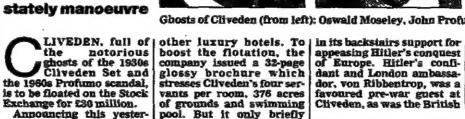
Committee A supporter of Bennite democratic reforms in the late 1970s and early 1980s, the LCC transformed itself into a sup-portive if independent voice backing Neil Kinnock's reforms. Many of its leading figures are now professional lobbyists or researchers and it relies heavily on a quar-terly journal, Renewal, for its

Labour Briefing

Scurrilous, sometimes funny, very hard-left magazine sup-ported by Liz Davies, the Labour candidate for Leeds North East banned from standing by the National Ex-ecutive. The magazine has that it is not an entyrist organisation.

Progress Newly-formed magazine cum political education centre, designed to provide mainly young Blairites with the intel-lectual ammunition and information to make New Labour a reality on the ground. However, it insists that it has not been estab-lished as a factional group aimed at the winning of

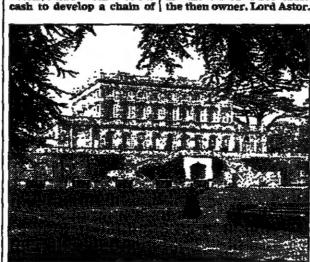
power for its supporters. Labour First Union-orientated right-of-centre group with heavy reliance on the support of the electri-cians' union and of the engineeers for its influence. Organises strenuously for NEC



now runs the miniature stately home near Taplow, Buckinghamshire, as a lux-ury hotel boasted that its room rates of £245 a night were the highest in Britain. Cliveden plc, which claimed the property was one of the world's three top hotels, said it would use the

stresses Cliveden's four ser-vants per room, 376 acres of grounds and swimming pool. But it only briefly mentions the Profumo scandal and omits the 1930s connection. "There are so many ways

of relaxing at Cliveden' the brochure says, in a claim which historians of the house would endorse. You could flirt with be traying your country, as did the Cliveden Set under



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### Robin Hood on run from PR men

Martin Wainwright

HE Sheriff of Notting-ham is riding to the rescue of his old antagonist Robin Hood, after an attempt by business and PR executives to dump the man who gave taxation a warm and friendly image.
Companies and export
specialists in the Midlands

city are hoping to oust the green-jerkined bowman as their civic symbol on the grounds that he gives the wrong impression to potential, money-minded investors.

ship — comprising businesses, the city's two uni-versities and the local council has decided that Robin is "soft imaging" and a PR light-weight, for all the havoc attributed to his stave and

"We have to find a way of promoting what we have to offer, to attract wealth-generating activity in competition with all the other UK and European regions," said Alaistair Eperon, director of corporate affairs at Boots, the

city's biggest firm. He added: "Nottingham has al, money-minded investors. on offer a lot of very good conscience, a man who
The Nottingham Pariner-things, but none of them has robbed the rich to give to the

that is the problem." Bob White, the city council's director of corporate af-fairs, said that Robin was a

difficult symbol to adapt to 21st century Europe. The partnership, which is backing its claim with research and surveys, hopes for a new symbol by August. The delay is offering time for a fightback, led by the current Sheriff of Nottingham, Roy Greensmith

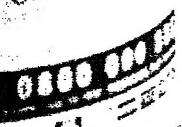
He said yesterday: "The legend of Robin Hood is of a person with a soul and a civic

comprising | much to do with Robin Hood | poor. That is rather out of fashion these days. But can we really afford to give him up? I don't think so — not just for tourism but for business." The move also brought an immediate bid for Robin from

Pontefract, where the author Brian Lewis bas fought a long campaign to restore the out law to his more likely stamp ing ground of South York-shire. "At last, Nottingham has given up its long fan-tasy," he said. "We look forward to welcoming Robin back to where he really

She admits she is attracted to feminine men and masculine women. "The type of girl I fancy when I walk into a room is not the type of girl I sleep with. Isn't that weird? I'm a lazy thing and I usually sleep with people who approach me."

Kathy Acker G2 page 12



# 'Buy non-British' stampede grows

IE stampede to drop British beef from school, retail and restaurant menus accelerated vesterday as the Government sidestepped mounting public calls for specific guidelines on

Three more fast food restaurant chains — Burger King, Wimpy and Wendy — yesterday cited customer confidence in their decisions to abandon British beef, while prices at cattle auctions plunged nearly 40 per cent.

ing a defence line based on the principle of consumer choice, markets and retail outlets were being driven by commercial fears about con-

from British beef for its burgers and changing to non-British beef," a company pokesman said last night. Wimpy believes it must

change to non-British beef to maintain absolute confidence in the safety of its products." Likewise Wendy, following McDonald's at the weekend, promised: "From today all beef in our restaurants in the UK will be non-British beef, and all British beef will be

removed from our system." Meanwhile the Consumers' Association last night reiterated its warning that the only way to avoid the risk of BSEinfected meat was to stop eating beef, and launched a fierce attack on the handling of the crisis. The Government's advice has done nothing to answer the key con-sumer concerns about beef," said Sheila McKechnie, the

"The main question for the

remains. The Government's dvice rests on enforcement of new controls in slaughterhouses. The evidence of the past has shown this has not nappened."

For schools, Mr Dorrell's decision not to issue fresh regulations left the choice up to individual education au thorities. Estimates suggest a third of them have have already taken beef off the menu. Doug McAvoy, general sec-retary of the National Union

ter's statement would leave LEAs and teachers waiting for a lead. "If there is an un-quantifiable risk, it is none-theless a risk. Schools should take beef off their menus for Nigel de Gruchy, genera secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters

of Teachers, said the minis-

consumer is whether to eat also urged schools to drop beef or not. That question still beef. "The scientific evidence is that the risk is small, but there is still a risk.

"I think Mr Dorrell should have advised schools against serving beef to children, until the concern has been allayed."
The Association of Metropolitan Authorities' educa-

tion officer, John Fowler, sup-ported his call: "I would imagine most parents would want to see schools keeping beef off menus for their children. This is a failure of leadership." But Ian Langtry, of the

Association of County Coun-cils, disagreed. "Beefburgers and sausages are already off the menus in most schools. Most too give a range of options which include a vegetarian meal. I am not surprised the Government has concluded there is no need to offer generalised advice."

troops with non-beef options. 'We have no guidelines," a spokesman explained, "but where possible, where beef is on the menu, we aim to provide a choice so people can exercise discretion. A lot of

our beef comes from Argentina. It's a very good price. In cattle and meat markets meanwhile, prices for British beef plunged as BSE fears turned the traditional Sunday roast into the pariah of the nation's dinner tables.

Livestock auctioneers said prices for heifers - young females, and normally the most valuable cattle — were 37 percent below those paid before the scare began last week. The estimate was based on a virtually non-existent mar-

ket since most farmers are holding back there cattle in the hope prices recover. Trad-The Ministry of Defence ers at London's Smithfield

per cent as sales of homegrown beef ground to a vir-tual halt. "People aren't buy-ing beef for love or money," one meat-cutter said.

Michael Chapman, head of Guttridge and Co meat whole-salers, added: "We just can't sell British beef at the moment, it's come to an almost complete standstill. It's worse than we expected."

Paul Ashworth, secretary for beef specialist Channel Meats Ltd, said he had sold around 25,000 tonnes of beef, mainly to Chinese restaurants. But this was almost half what he sold last Monday. "The fear is that many of us are going to be unemployed in a month — people are very upset," he said.

### last night confirmed that it, meat market said the price of too, would attempt to provide imported beef had rocketed 25 troops with non-beef ontions are cent as sales of home. in trade gap feared as imports replace exports

Larry Elliott

HE CITY was last night predicting an increase of up to £1.5 billion a year in the trade gap following
Europe's ban on beef exports.
Analysts said that exports
of £590 million a year could be wiped out by the international reaction to the scare and retailers were likely to

switch to imported beef.
With the financial markets still fittery about the prospects of a partial or complete cull, they added that trade might merely be the first part of the economy to suffer. Economists were still not

ruling out the possibility that the Government would eventually have to order the slaughter of all 11 million beef and dairy cattle. They said this "nightmare scenario" would slash growth, push up inflation, possibly force the introduction of milk rationing, and might eliminate all chances of tax cuts in the November Budget.

The most obvious impact would be on the public finances, where the cost of compensating farmers alone would be £10 billion, according to Ian Shepherdson, economist with City firm HSBC.

The Government is hoping that Brussels will use the Common Agricultural Policy to provide an alternative mar-ket for unwanted British beef

The Government will still probably have to foot the bill for subsidies to help farmers rebuild their businesses and for the long-term costs of un-employment in the food proessing and dairy industries. Mr Shepherdson said that the total costs could add up to a maximum of £20 billion on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement, perhaps spread over a number of years. Some of the money would come from a raid on the Trea-sury's contingency reserve, but according to Adam Cole,

economist with James Capel, government borrowing would

The PSBR in the current financial year already looks set | lieve this could amount to one to exceed £30 billion, and the percentage point off Gross Do-City was already having mestic Product.

doubts about the Chancellor's ability to deliver big pre-election tax cuts even before last week's revelations about BSE. Killing every head of cattle would also magnify the im-pact of last night's ban, since

it would mean importing vast quantities of dairy products Allowing for the loss of all exports of milk and dairy products and assuming a onefor one switch to imports, the trade deficit would swell by a further 25 billion. The Govfor 1996 is £5 billion.

In the short term, the inflation outlook will be improved by the collapse in beef prices. Beef accounts for 0.6 per cent

Milk shortages would lead to sharply higher prices — which would hit inflation

of the Retail Prices Index and a price fall of 25 per cent plausible in the current atmosphere - would take 0.15 points off the April inflation figures.

But this would be dwarfed

by the longer term conse-quences of having to import milk. Britain currently imports virtually no fresh milk, yet consumes around 200 mil-lion pints a week. Analysts believe that it

would not be feasible to import such high quantities, and that the shortages would lead to sharply higher prices. A doubling of prices — given milk's relatively high weight in the basket of goods used to calculate the RPI — would add 1.5 points to inflation.

The Government would then be faced with an uncom-fortable choice. Either it could see inflation breach its 2.5 per cent target or it could increase the cost to public borrowing by huge subsidies. Last but not least, higher imports and lower domestic production would also affect and Mr Shepherdson both be-

### Child clue to killer strain

Paul Brown Environment Corr

OME of the victims of the new strain of fatal brain disorder which 'mad cow disease' were under 10 when they were infected, John Pattison, chairman of the government's expert panel said yesterday. Revealing the ages of the 10

victims for the first time, Pro-fessor Pattison said the youndeath. The others were aged 19, 20, three were 29, two were 30, one was 31 and the last 41. The assumption must be was 10 years and the victims 1980s. This coincided with the time the bovine form of the

suspected cases of young people with the disease were being studied by the commit tee. Both were seriously ill. Confirmation that the disease as the same was not poss-

He also said that two other



A truck containing carcasses of cows, slaughtered after one of the herd was diagnosed with BSE, leaving a farm in Pommerit-le-Vicomte, western France, yesterday. The carcasses of 151 cows are due to be burned today. Five days ago, France banned British beef imports because of BSE PHOTOGRAPH PHILIPPE HUGUEN

affected people over 50. The two-day meeting con-

sidered whether the proteins

might be particularly at risk. The normal form of Creutz-feldt-Jakob Disease generally vious week. It was unclear why no cases of the previ-ously unrecognised variant

In contrast to the more ro-oust statements of the two had not stood scrutiny. bust statements of the two ministers at the press conference, the professor continued to be cautious. He said that a large number of tests were

and dairy products were safe, Professor Pattison said there was no evidence that they

was the same was not possible until after death.

He said it was the extreme youth of the victims at the disease were more likely to be time of infection which led the Spongiform Encephalopaths Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee to Consider whether children

The committee to make the disease had been patients but that did not mean that younger people were more likely to be associated with causing the patients but that did not mean that younger people were times months before all the was not so sure about the would be weeks and sometimes months before all the was not so sure about the disease more likely to be a route of infection. The committee also wanted would be weeks and some nerve tissue then it was nonthing times months before all the some nerve tissue then it was nonthing to make the could be a route of infection. The committee also wanted that did not mean that the disease had been found to make the could be a route of infection. The committee also wanted the was not so sure about the disease were more likely to be a soute of that they associated with causing the patients but that did not mean that the disease and some nerve tissue then it was nonthing the was not so sure about the disease more all the was not so sure about the disease more all the was not so sure about the would be weeks and some nerve tissue then it was nonthing the was not so sure about the would be a route of infection.

The committee the proteins associated with causing the patients but that did not mean that the disease had being carried out and it would be weeks and some nerve tissue then it was not so sure about the would be a route of infection.

The committee the proteins associated with causing the solution that the disease were more likely to be a route of infection.

The committee the proteins associated with causing the patients but that did not mean that the disease were available.

The most likely to be a route of infection.

The committee the proteins associated with causing the patients but that did not mean

mission through beef then it was probably through splashing of offial on to meat in the slaughtering process. The committee wanted the most stringent measures to make sure that offal was removed. The committee also wanted

## Advisers confirm that CJD cases linked to BSE before offal ban

Encephalopathy Advisory

☐ Introduction

after further discussion and consideration of additional or not there is a causal link genetic data from some of between BSE and the human these patients, that our condisease.

statement from the Government's Spongiform incephalopathy Advisory ommittee:

Clusions of March 20, 1996 are unchanged. That is, on curtered that is, on curtered that and in the absence of any credible alternative, the most likely explanation at th present is that these cases are The committee has reported 10 cases of a previously unrecognised variant of CJD [Creutzfeldt-Jakob's Disease].

It agreed this weekend.

position to confirm whether

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judgment a precise measure is impossible because of a number of interacting uncertainties, including: □ the magnitude of the species barrier between cattle

□ lack of data on levels of infectivity in a range of impor-tant cattle tissues which are below the level of detectability by current assays; the uneven distribution of

infectivity in any tissue:

the time course for the appearance of infectivity over the duration of the incubation

☐ Age-related

SRAC had a wide ranging discussion of the changes in the physiology of the human gastro-intestinal tract and host defences throughout life. It considered carefully its knowledge of the transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (kuru, CJD, scrapie, transmissible mink encepha-lopathy; BSE) in natural infections and animal model systems. If the new variant of Public, the younger JD is related to exposure to BSE, this exposure is likely to parental concerns have been between 1982 and

children are not likely to be more susceptible to that infection than are adults.

☐ Other vulnerable groups The committee also considered the following groups: the immunosuppressed, patients in hospital and pregnant women. It concludes that if human infection with the BSE agent occurs, none of these groups is likely to have any increased susceptibility to infection.

generation, and

No human activity is withperiod;
| whether there is a dose below which there is no risk of that those who were children | late 1989, and the age range of the cases does not suggest ment rigorously enforces the current and newly recomthat those who were children current and newly recomments on the basis of the controls were at any mended controls, we believe the current and newly recommended controls.

prepared to accept for them-selves. It is important to be aware that many foods are associated with health risks and that changing from beef to non-beef products is not necessarily without risk.

☐ Trimmings from cattle over 30 months of age The committee reconfirmed

its recommendation that cat tle aged over 30 months must be deboned in licensed plants. and went on to recommend that the trimmings, compris-ing the obvious nervous and lymphatic tissue (including the 14 lymph nodes specified in EC trade legislation) and the vertebral column (excluding tail vertebrae) should be treated as specified boving offal.

It also recommended that tiliser likely to be used on

parents will often choose to reduce risk to their children beyond that which they are it is removed without contamination), should be treated as specified bovine ☐ Gelatin

It concluded that this mate-rial was safe ... given the large reduction in theoretical infectivity in the production of gelatin. ☐ Meat and bone meal The committee confirmed

its previous advice that the use of mammalian meat and bone meal should be prohibited in any circumstances where there might be a risk of the material being fed to or ingested by ruminants. In particular, it must not be in-corporated into any feed for any farmed animals, includ-

ing fish or horses, or into fer-

available quantitative data. into account it concludes that committee recognises that the whole head of animals land to which ruminants have and where these were lacking if human infection with the parents will often choose to aged over six months, except access.

On expert opinion and its own BSE agent occurs, infants and reduce risk to their children for the tongue (provided that

The committee therefore advises the Government a) to ensure that all the restrictions previously recommended are fully implemented. If this is ensured, any BSE-related risk from eating any beef or beef products is likely to be extremely small;

□ Conclusions

 b) to reinforce immediately the surveillance of CJD and associated epidemiological c) that these issues will

require long-term, basic and applied research [which] will require substantial additional resources. There should be no delays due to difficulties in obtaining resources.
The committee does not believe that additional mea-

sures are justified, but the sit-

### UK isolated, friendless and without offer of aid

Stephen Bates on EU scientists' vote to ban all tainted products indefinitely

pean Union over beef last night, friendless and with no immediate promise of cash aid to bail it out of the worst crisis in British agriculture since the second world war. The senior veterinary officials of the 15 member states

RITAIN found itself iso-lated within the Euro-pean Union over hear in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries — for an indefinite period until Britain satisfies the EU that they are | prepared to offer aid. The Government has been

invited for more talks with

the commission, which is res-

of slights and insults from the British for its bureaucracy and its allegedly overweening powers - was in no mood to accept any compromises or half measures and was not Officials in Brussels made

adoption. Last night it was clear the

clear yesterday that the commission's emergency aid bud-get for farmers is already allovoted 14 to one for an immediate ponsible for implementing cated, for this year and next ate ban on the export of all the ban and was essentially Franz Fischler, the Aus-

the driving force behind its trian agriculture commis- ence, the commissioner was adoption. sioner, wrote to Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minis-ter, on Friday asking why the commission had not been in-formed at last Monday's meeting of agriculture ministers, of the pending announcement about beef safety "I would have expected you

to consult us before taking such a decision . . . If the new findings are as troubling as they sound, the measures you announced

ish journalist whether he thought the British had acted sufficiently. "It is a very seri-ous issue," he said. "We must all realise we are dealing with an extremely serious problem. It was only to be ex-pected that member states should react in this way."

Veterinary officials leaving the scientific committee said there had been strong feelings against Britain, and diplomats from other member At last night's press confer- states have been equally un- now holds the whip hand.

sympathetic. The British claimed that the EU ban was political rather than scientific

Keith Meldrum, Britain's chief vet, said it had been "rushed, unscientific and disproportionate". Even Den-mark, which had not banned beef — partly because of Britain's support in an earlier Danish foot and mouth crisis - will fall into line.

Britain, so pleased to stand out from the herd on political grounds, has found Europe



It would be interesting to ask Mrs Major if she hears any terrified three-in-the morning screams coming from beside her. If the Conservatives did go down to two seats, Mr Major, in Huntingdon, would probably hold one of the two, perhaps along with Sir Norman Fowler in Sutton Coldfield, but neither of them might find the Commons much fun in those circumstances.

**Matthew Engel G2 Front** 



#### With prices in freefall, one cattle farmer struggles to come to terms with the financial implications of the disease

### Farm's stock of gloom and shock

Irac are

fore offalk

ut offer of

**Geoffrey Gibbs on** cost to rural life

OTHING in the Government's statement yesterday could lighten the mood of gloom that has fallen on the Barter household since the lat-est BSE scare sent market prices of beef into a

Sitting in the warm, sp cious kitchen of his 200-year-old hillside farmhouse in the Teign Valley, Ron Barter listened intently but with deepening frustration to the announcements and to the political point-scoring that followed

There's nothing in that that gives me a warm feel-ing," he said slowly. "I'm still feeling depressed. I don't think it's going to make any difference to us or to the confidence of the

Ron and his wife, Bever ley, have good cause to be-moan the financial implications of the collapse in confidence, which has come at the worst of all times in the annual farming cycle, with cattle ready for market and new calves about to

Over the past nine years they have built up a herd of sup-South Devon, Hereford cross, and Limousin cross with prices plunging and



Ron Barter, contemplating an uncertain future and possible financial ruin, with beef cattle at his West Country farm

for breeding.

They were doing sufficiently well to be able to buy a neighbouring prop-

meal feeds but suffering four incidents of BSE from heifers they had bought in for breeding.

stretched. Under other cirwas a feeling of disbelief, of catastrophe and their 250-strong herd would have been taken to "The financial implica-" market during the spring and summer sales. With prices crashing by about 20 mally employ one full-time per cent as news of the and one part-time worker possible CJD link broke through the year, but at they were looking at a loss barvest time we take on

"Then there's the fencing and hedging and the arable work that has to be done. The worst scenario is that we won't be able to carry on." Belt-tightening has al-

ready begun. The Barters would nor-South Devon, Hereford portive bank manager. But the melp of a support of the manager. But the melp of a support of the manager. But the manager. But they were looking at a loss through the year, but at through the year, b

down the amount of feed slow down the fattening

being given to animals to

The biggest worry though is whether they will find the energy to cope with the spring calving season. "For calving you are on a 24-hour day. But it's difficult

If the so-called "doomsday option" of slaughtering the entire national herd were chosen — costing £7 billion in compensation, or £20 billion if the Government pays restitu-tion for loss of earnings while herds are rebuilt — it could per million, in Germany 0.68 that through most of the in 1993/94, Israel 0.91 over the world "the distribution of

five years. in 1993/94, Israel 0.91 over the longer period, 1963-87, Holland 0.92 in 1983/94, and 0.83 in the US in 1986-88.

Dairy farmers appear at greater risk of CJD regardless of whether their country is BSE free, suggesting that "other aspects of dairy farming" may be the cause. The longer period, 1963-87, Holland 0.92 in 1983/94, and 0.83 in the US in 1986-88.

Dairy farmers appear at greater risk of CJD regardless of whether their country is slaughtered soon. Every time a case has been found in France, the herd has been slaughtered and incinerated.

World "the distribution of Agriculture, hinted at the Government favoured slaughtering all cattle born more than 30 months ago, as there had been no BSE cases in beasts born since then. Compensation would be £3.2 billion for the

## Slaughter would take five years

Christopher Elliott and Stuart Millar report

ain designed to destroy suspected BSE cattle carcasses will on Fri-day present ministers with a blueprint for dealing with a policy of wholesale slaughter. However, such a move is fraught with logistical and environmental problems, as there are fewer than 20 specialists and their total capacity is only 1,000 car-casses a day. They will, though, thrash out a plan at a meeting of the Licensed Ani-mal Slaughterers and Salvage

Association on Thursday.
Options being considered by the Government range from killing the entire British herd of 11 million cattle, to a selective cull of hundreds of thousands of animals. Any of these options would strain a system that dealt with only 454 BSE cases in the first 10 weeks of this year — and even when the BSE scare was at its height in 1993, it only had to destroy around 1,000 car-

"We do see there is a major problem with how we do this," Chris Ashworth, the association's technical ad-

riser, said yesterday.

The incinerators are liensed either by the local authorities or by the Inspector-ate of Pollution. At present, when a cow is suspected of BSE a Ministry of Agricul-ture vet is called to kill it with a lethal injection. The head is then removed for tests to confirm BSE, and the carcass is taken to an incinerator by specialist transport.

hardly be done in less than

WNERS of the few | 4.5 million animals involved incinerators in Brit | and up to £10 billion for lost and up to £10 billion for lost

earnings.

Another option, which appears to find some favour in the industry, is to destroy dairy cows at the end of their productive lives. Most BSE is in dairy cows, but so far it is accepted their milk is safe and so killing them at about seven years of age would en-able a phased slaughter policy. Dairy cows are milked be-tween the ages of two and nine, and around 700,000 go into the food chain each year. Such a policy would cost around £700 million a year.

Whatever the levels of com-pensation, the effects on the jobs of the 300,000 or so employed in the beef and dairy industry are unclear.

ture director of the Midland Bank, said the impact of compensation would be particu-larly important for dairy farmers. "It very much de-pends on the nature of the business. If we are talking about dairy cows then the compensation for the animal wouldn't be sufficient as there's a large consequential loss of milk revenue.

"The issue of consequential loss is going to be very impor-tant. If the Government opts for culling cows so they are destroyed instead of going into the food chain as cheap meat, then there's no loss to the farmer because the animal was at the end of its working life. But as soon as we start talking about slaugh-tering a milking cow then there will be quite a substantial consequential loss when it leaves the herd, so there may be a danger of some dairy farmers going to the wall."

Ewen Cameron, president of the Country Landowners Association, said yesterday:
"I have heard a figure of 50
per cent of people could go in
the dairy industry, but downstream of that it may be more

### US warned of imminent mad cow disease threat

Alex Bellos and Michael White

mysterious condition, Downer Cow Syndrome (DCS), which kills 100,000 cat-

Mr Lyman, a Montana cattle rancher turned environmental lobbyist, was in Lon-don yesterday to prepare for his appearance today as a defence witness in the "McLi-bel" High Court case where

McDonald's is suing two cam-paigners over a leaflet. He said that scientists in said that scientists in Wisconsin have recently es-

#### UK 161,663, the rest 383

FFICIAL figures show zerland, 205; Republic of Ireland, 123; Portugal, 31; the UK has logged 422 times more cases of BSE than the rest of the world. Guernsey and the Isle of House Society, said that a mysterious condition.

Figures show zerland, 205; Republic of Ireland, 123; Portugal, 31; France, 13; Germany, 4; than the rest of the world. Guernsey and the Isle of Man each have more cases than the rest of the world. Rritain 152 222; November 1; Total: 383

All the cases recorded in

Britain, 158,882: Northern Ireland, 1,680; Guernsey, 575; Isle of Man, 405; Falklands are said to have tie in the US every year. has Jersey, 119; Alderney, 2; originated in Britain as been linked to an encephalop UK total: 161,663 were three of the Portugese

"A high percentage of DCS cows are ground up and fed back to other cows. If only one has BSE, the potential for infection is astronomical." While noeDCS cow or cow fed on DCS cows has exhib-

ited mad cow symptoms, said Mr Lyman, minks fed on DCS cows by researchers have done. "The brains of these

minks was put into the brain of Holstein cows. Eighteen

months after the cows didn't

go mad, they just went dead. Their brains were analysed and they died of an encepha-lopathy disease.

'This raises the problem that we don't have a mad cow sydrome, we have a DCS. What we have in the US today

is exactly what you had in | year. In France the compara- | Commons library paper England 10 years ago. The | ble figure for 1992-94 was 0.81 | issued in November suggests Government said: 'Don't | per million, in Germany 0.68 | that through most of the worry. We have the safest in-dustry in the world. That official line has got England where it is today. It will take the US to the same position." Another report that

emerged yesterday seemed to indicate that a higher prevalence of BSE did not necessar-ily mean more CJD cases. The Edinburgh-based CJD Surveillance Unit said incidence of CJD increased rapidly where ever co-ordinated mon-itoring took place.

The report said: "It would however be premature to con-clude that this indicates any additional risk factor for CJD in the UK as the incidence in is similar or even higher."

British CJD deaths rose from 28 in 1985 to 55 in 1994 — dropping at the start of last year — and reached a peak of 0.93 cases per million people a

**News in brief** Takeaway

for Germans THE German football team may bring home-produced beef to England during June's European Football

Championships.
The team cook, Fritz Westermann, said he had been asked to contact a Bavarian butcher who could guarantee the quality of his meat and had helped the national team

SA may lift ban

SOUTH Africa is sending experts to the UK to establish whether it is safe to lift its tem-porary ban. The chief director of the department of agricul-ture, Paul Bosman, said that there were no scientific grounds for the ban, which had only been introduced as a "public relations exercise". South Africa imports about 27,000 tonnes of British beef a

Smuggling alert

FRENCH customs officials were on alert yesterday after four lorries were intercepted trying to smuggle banned Brit-ish beef into Calais. In one consignment officials discovered 140 carcasses -- 15 tonnes --without the obligatory country-of-origin stamp. This was followed by three more lorries carrying a further 32

Help from the US

Dan Glickman, promised technical assistance to Britain. "We're going to provide them all the help and assistance we can in figuring out what causes BSE and how to stop

THE US agriculture secretary **Egyptian** caution TWO ships carrying about 3,600 Irish cattle have left Egyptian waters on orders from the authorities. Egypt has imposed a ban on imports of European meat and livestock.

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Chance to opt out may appeal to Eurosceptics

## **EU warns Britain** not to block unity

John Palmer

POWERFUL coalition of governments led by Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Jacques Chirac — will warn John Major this week not to derail plans for closer European unity or risk being excluded from a final

agreement. When he meets his fellow EU leaders in Turin, northern and social policy secured as Italy, on Friday, the Prime part of the Maastricht treaty Minister will be told that any in 1991. chance of a compromise agreement before Britain's general election will depend on his accepting that countries wishing to forge a closer union should be free to

under the proposed compromise to be put to the Maastricht treaty review conference, Britain will not be obliged to take part in any new security or defence union, but must not block new security or defence issues in Bonn, Paris and union, but must not block other capitals. other countries which want to go ahead. If the Government rejects the compromise, the

France's leader has

thrust social policy

Meanwhile Mr Chirac yesterday confidently restated France's determination to join, on time, the single currency bloc. The suggested compromise

could appeal to some Euros-ceptic Tory MPs and would allow Mr Major to claim be had secured more "opt-outs" from the EU. in addition to those for the single currency

But government ministers fear that the emergence of a 'federalising hard core' within the EU will further marginalise Britain's influence in Europe.

The Italian government,

**Wooed Chirac articulates** 

rising passion for Europe

table with parallel steps to veto any aspect of the pro-strengthen political unity. posed overhaul of the Maastricht treaty, including greater majority voting or an

But, a German diplomat said: "The British cannot have it both ways. They cannot single-handedly stop the EU as a whole moving for-ward and at the same time block moves by others to cooperate more closely without Britain." The French and German

governments point out that monetary union provides a precedent for a "variable geometry" agreement on closer integration. Although Britain has an opt-out from EMU, the other countries will be able to use the EU institu-

tions and legal system to run the single currency bloc.

The idea is that this model might be applied to internal justice, immigration, security and defence. Countries which "Everyone would prefer an agreement involving all 15 member states in every as

rejects the compromise, the other EU leaders are ready to postpone a new treaty until after the general election. Buoyed by his coalition's success in the weekend elections in three German regions, Mr Kohl is determined that the Masstricht treaty review should match.

The member states in every as pect of future integration. But the pect of future integration. But the pect of future integration. But the remainder that in the very least that country than at the very least that country must not frustrate the wishes of the majority who want to act on their election produces a new government in Britain. But they fear that a protracted delay in the timetable for a new treaty in the survey other. ity who want to act on their own," a senior Italian government source said yesterday.

Britain, like every other EU government, has the right to large the EU.



Red-carpet treatment . . . King Harald of Norway looks on as President Yeltsin blows a kiss to the crowds on his arrival in Oslo yesterday. Russian opposition to Nato expansion and Norway's concerns about nuclear pollution will top the agenda for talks during his visit PHOTOGRAPH: SERGEI CHERKOV

## Yeltsin rules out merger with Bielarus

David Hearst in Moscow and John Palmer in Brussel

ORIS Yeltsin was forced to backpedal fu-riously yesterday on his plans to seek the reinte-gration of former Soviet states with Russia. The Russian president denied that a mion treaty with Bielarus, t be signed on April 2, would mean the merger of the two

countries. Mr Yeltsin said: "Somebody has got things mixed up." He was speaking after 30,000 Bie-larussians opposed to any merger demonstrated in the capital, Minsk, on Sunday. Russia's cold feet derive

from the knowledge that Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan the other states involved in Mr Yeltsin's original plan for states - are now interested in no more than a concept of 'deeper co-operation".

not prepared to sign an agreement giving powers to a su-pra-national supreme council composed of presidents. prime ministers and parlia-

But Alexander Luka-shenko, the despotic president of Bielarus who is in per-manent conflict with his ers of Ukraine and Bielarus

tionalists who deplore his role in breaking up the Soviet Union in 1991. The other two signatories of the secret agreement which heralded the collapse of the union, Leo-nid Kravchuk and Stanislav

The central Asian states are | from his project to gain the | Mikhail Gorbachev, the then | states, the Duma declined to ot prepared to sign an agree | votes of moderate Russian na | Soviet president, instead. Mr | continue the squabble. Soviet president, instead. Mr Yeltsin has never forgiven Mr Nazarbayev for what he sees as an act of betrayal, and now views him as a potential ally of the communist leader, Gen-

nady Zyuganov. In reply to Mr Yeltsin's effort to court the nationalist

vote, Mr Zyuganov has been

'Russia was, is and will be Bielarus's main foreign partner. Contacts with Europe will be co-ordinated with Russia'

up. On Saturday he spoke in enthusiastic terms of composing a national anthem for the new state. He said the union agreement must be signed in a public square or "in a sol-emn ceremony in a palace" before the Patriarch of Mos-cow and all Russia, Alexel II.

reaped scant political reward

 have both been ousted. Mr Yeltsin has struggled to dis-own his role in the meeting. Nursultan Nazarbayev, the president of Kazakhstan, is in no hurry to bail Mr Yeltsin out. Mr Nazerbayev was in-vited to attend the secret conclave in 1991, but his aircraft mysteriously developed technical difficulties in Moscow, and the Kazakh leader saw

for a leftwing alliance. He has found them on the extreme left, an alliance which led to his party signing two largely symbolic Duma resolutions to restore the status quo ante of the Soviet Union. When chal-

continue the squabble.

Mr Zyuganov is favourite to win the June presidential elections. The support of the extreme left will boost his 23 per cent share of the vote by six to seven points — at

the expense of the "third force" of moderates, whom Mr Yeltsin has been wooing. The European Union signed a trade agreement with Bielarus yesterday, after receiving assurances from Mikhail Chigir, the prime minister, that his country was not

about to merge with Russia.

"Russia was, is and will be
Bleiarus's main foreign partner," Mr Chigir said. "Contacts between Bielarus and
the European Union are in
parallel and will be co-ordinated with the Russian Federa-tion. The more we develop lenged by Mr Yeltsin to say stable ties with wester whether the resolutions invalidated Russia's recogniable to repay our dues to Rutton of the newly independent sia for gas and oil supplies." stable ties with western Europe, the more we will be able to repay our dues to Rus-

#### back on to the agenda of this week's Maastricht review conference.

second of a series on views from EU states PY DIVERTING the to create a free trade in goods, services and people. We have installed a Common Agricul-President Jacques Chirac yes-terday put paid to any linger-ing British hopes that the arrival of a tricolore waving

Gaullist at the Elysée Palace of this week's inter-covernmental conference (IGC) in Turin, President Chirac appeared in the throes of Europassion, allowing him to giftwrap a few thorny domestic issues — such as unemploy-ment and poverty — and hand

them to Brussels. Mr Chirac implied in an article in Liberation that Britain's bete noire, the Maas tricht social chapter, did not go far enough and was too often flouted. He wants to "define a genuine European social project", and will shortly circulate his propos-

als to member states. The French president con-firmed that his country will be on board when the single currency is launched on January 1, 1999 — with a tangible euro in consumer's hands in 2002 - and called for penalties to be imposed against countries which carry out competitive devaluations.

Mr Chirac knows as well as anyone that the Turin conference was never intended to be a forum for discussing the single currency, or the trans-fer of a member's social conscience. It is due to address far more soporific issues, such as reforming European institutions, imsecurity policy and increas-ing judicial and police co-

Yesterday, however, he bemoaned the European Union's "18 million unemployed, its 50 million threatened by pov-erty, the families affected by

tural Policy which recogn the pre-eminent role of our farmers. But have we reas-sured the Europeans?"

Sceptics could argue that
Mr Chirac wants to bog down
the Turin agenda with difficult social issues. But that muld be unlikely

President Chirac is proving that he is a Euro-waverer who has been wooed. In 1992, he hesitated unto the last over whether to back Maastricht. During his election campaign last year, he never mentioned

But six nuclear tests later,

#### France's president wants to 'define a genuine European social project'

as a leader by spearheading European intervention in Bosnia. Mr Chirac has found in Europe an unlikely area of national consensus. The Socialists are broadly in agreement and the leftwing Liberation said in a leader article yesterday: "European construction is to France what the law of gravity is to the apple — unquestionable and a categorical imperative." Michel Rocard, the former Socialist prime minister, told the Guardian: "Europe is safe in Chirac's hands. He is mov-ing in the right direction. The

problem is Britain. The com-munity should ask itself how much longer it should put up with a member which to such resterday, nowever, he bemoaned the European Union's
'18 million unemployed, its
0 million threatened by povrty, the families affected by
rugs".

He said: "We have managed with a member which to such
an extent hinders progress."

Even Eurosceptics in the
rightwing majority — led by
the National Assembly's president, Philippe Séguin — have
muted their criticism.

doubts: the latest opinion poll, published last Friday, found that 49 per cent of found that 49 per cent of French people consider Euro-pean construction to have failed. But the same poll found 36 per cent wish it to proceed space.
With France enduring 11.6
per cent unemployment, and writes Alex Duval Smith in Paris in the

single currency criteria standing in the way of domestic economic measures to reverse the trend, it is natural that President Chirac should turn to Europe.
Mr Chirac said yesterday:

"The community has a budget of 500 million france (£66.5 million) — a marvellous instru-ment for job creation." He said it was unacceptable that ob-creation schemes agreed at EU summits in 1994 and 1995, including 14 transport projects, were still dormant.
Turning to the IGC's main
World news in mission — to adapt institu-tions to the EU's enlargement

to 27 countries - Pre Chirac said France's principles were "identity, efficiency iemocracy and enlargement But in a stab against the Thatcherite argument for en-largement, to dilute the EU, he said that Europe must be strengthened before admit-

ting new members.
"Let us be faithful to the lessons of General de Gaulle and Georges Pompidou: to be able to enlarge, Europe must first deepen while respecting national sovereignty."

He reasserted France's pro-posal, backed by Britain, for a foreign policy representative to be appointed to give the 15 member states "one face and one voice". His favoured canlidate is known to be the for mer rightwing president, Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

Mr Chirac also propose reducing the number of Euro pean commissioners and allowing the heads of national parliaments to be consulted on the Commission's work. He implicitly accepted the extension of qualified majority voting to the Council of

Europe, stressing that member states which wish to "should velop co-operative projects".

But he steered clear of stating that qualified majority yoting should extend to de-

fence and foreign policy co-ordination. France, like Britain, does not believe majority voting can be used in these

Next: Scandinavia

### WHO says sanctions have devastated Iraq health care

THE World Health Organisation said yesterday that five years of sanctions have set back health care in Iraq "Assessment reports by 50 years and the international community should reconsider the implications of the financial and trade

In a survey of the effects of sanctions on health, the United Nations agency said most Iraqis had been on a semi-starvation diet since the Gulf war in 1991.

Since sanctions were imposed in response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, in-tant mortality has doubled witness," it added. — Reuter.

rightly remarked that the quality of health care in Iraq, due to the six-week 1991 war and the subsequent sanctions imposed on the country, has been literally put back by at least 50 years," said the

survey.
"Diseases such as malaria typhoid and cholera, which were once almost under control, have rebounded since 1991 to epidemic levels, with the health sector as a helpless

'Gallic Elvis'

#### Pope denies cancer report

THE Vatican yesterday de-nied a Spanish newspaper report that the Pope has cancer and said the pontiff, aged 75, would go ahead with a heavy schedule of engagements in the next few weeks.

Josquin Navarro-Valls, the chief Vatican spokesman, said the Pope had laughed when he heard about the report in the newspaper Diario 16, which said on Sun-day he probably had cancer of "His Holiness's doctor authorises me to say that John

Paul II undergoes regular clinical checks and that he does not show any sign whatsoever of a neoplastic disease," Mr Navarro-Valls said. The Pope underwent sur-

gery in 1992 to remove a tumour from his colon that doctors said was starting to turn malignant. The Vatican says the tumour was com-pletely removed. — Reuter.

### The French rock singer, Johnny Hallyday, aged 52, married model Lactitla Boudou, aged 21, yesterday. It was his fifth wedding and

Hallyday weds

her first. The couple tied the knot at the town hall in Neuilly-

sur-Seine, a chic suburb of Paris. "We love him all the same," said a teenage girl, one of dozens of wellwishers outside. "In a lifestyle as difficult

as ours, the entertainment world, it's bard for couples to stay together," the sing-er's manager, Jean-Claude Camus, said. "But he's found someone people unanimously admire."

A phenomenon little known outside the French-speaking world where he is feted as the Gallic answer to Elvis Presley, "Johnny' has enjoyed huge success since his first hit in the 1960s. — Reuter.



The underlying theme is a simple one, that of secrecy versus openness. The Government's protests

.aw G2 page 7

#### Queen pays tribute to **Polish Jews**

HE Queen laid a wreath yesterday at Umschlag-platz, just outside what was the Jewish ghetto in Warsaw, as she began the first visit by a British monarch to Poland, writes Sanchia Berg in

A monument in black and white stone marks the spot where 300,000 Jews were forced into cattle-trucks to be trols including a code of conent to the death camp at

Poland's small Jewish com-munity had been hastily assembled to meet the Queen. It was a late addition to her

schedule on the long-planned state visit, after some British Jews complained that she was not scheduled to visit The visit has attracted con-

siderable and rather respect ful interest in the Polish press, but the Queen and Prince Philip have drawn only modest crowds. About 1,000 people came to see her on the first walkabout in Warsaw's old Town Square.

In a speech to the Polish parliament today she is ex-pected to stress Britain's support for expansion of the European Union and Nato. Warsaw wants full and fast membership of the Western

#### Arms trade ethics call

First Lady in Bosnia... Hillary Clinton greets US peacekeepers on her arrival at Tuzla airbase yesterday, during her one-day visit to the troops in Bosnia. Accompanied by her daughter Chelsea, she flew in on a cargo plane loaded with presents, and became the first US president's wife to visit independently an area of conflict

PHOTOGRAPH: DOUG MILLS

A judicial inquiry has recom-mended an end to all secrecy surrounding South African arms sales as part of a new weapons policy subordinating economic advantage to ethical considerations, writes David Beresford in Johannesburg.

In an 85-page report released yesterday, the com-mission under Judge Edwin Cameron urged the govern-ment to limit all weapons sales and recommended conduct to ensure weapons do not reach "repressive, or ag-

#### About 20 senior figures in gressive regimes". Muskie critical

The former US secretary of state, Edmund Muskie, is in a critical condition after suffer ing a heart attack, his law firm said yesterday. Mr Mus-kie, aged 31, a former presidential candidate, suffered the attack during an operation in Washington. — Reuter.

#### Murdoch In China Rupert Murdoch's Star TV

network yesterday announced a new three-channel satellite-delivered service in the Chinese language of Man-

Samper defiant Colombia's president, Ernesto Samper, has rejected any no-

### political crisis, Bogotá's El Tiempo newspaper has reported Last month a congressional committee reconnec its investigation into his al-leged knowledge of the financ-ing of his election campaign by drug traffickers.—Reuter.

Nuclear-free zone Britain, France and the United States yesterday signed the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty in Suva Fiji agreeing to ban nu-clear weapons from the region, home to about 26 mil-lion people. — Reuter.

Jordan has expelled Prosseln Faraj Khalaf, the assistant press attaché at the Iraqi em-bassy in Amman, for activities incompatible with his diplomatic status, an official source said yesterday. - Reuter. **Giscard resigns** 

Diplomat expelled

#### France's right faces its biggest shake-up for 20 years after the resignation last night of Valery Giscard d'Estaing as leader of the Union for French Democracy (UDF), urites Alex Duvol Smith in Paris.

Heard at last Deaf Swedes can now report crimes to deaf staff at the country's first police station for the hard of hearing in a Stockholm suburb. "Many crimes against deaf people go unreported because of comtion of resigning despite hav-ing proposed early elections to help the country overcome a said.—Reuter. munication problems," Bilger

seem disingenuous Richard Norton-Taylor

No Eve

(15)特殊人提生年,在

#### Berlusconi claims rivals are 'dinosaurs' as Italy shuts up shop to protest at high taxes Several prominent figures the self-employed an average from the past, including a for-John Hooper in Rome mer Christian Democrat

SHOPS and bars across Italy closed their shutters candidates of the centre-left's for two hours yesterday to protest against the tax burden

carried by small businesses. Tax has become a key issue in the general election campaign and was the central theme yesterday of the first televised debate between the two main contenders for the premiership, allowing Silvio Berlusconi, leader of the right, to coin the campaign's

first memorable soundbite. He accused his rival, Professor Romano Prodi, and other centre-left leaders of representing the "Jurassic pay an average 43.2 per cent regul Park of the First Republic". of their income in taxes and said.

prime minister, Ciriaco De Mita, have been put up as

"Olive Tree alliance". As a result, the Olive Tree is vulnerable to charges that it has inherited a tradition of high-spending, bigh-taxing

government.

Mr Berlusconi and his for merly neo-fascist allies are standing on a platform of tax cuts, which the centre-left has dismissed as cheap populism. There is no doubting public

pressure for lower — and simpler — taxation. Official fig-

ures suggest salaried workers

The chairman of the

retailers' association which organised yesterday's protest said bar owners had to pay 142 different taxes and levies in the course of a year. Italy's self-employed were being "tortured by a Soviet-style tax bureaucracy",

front-page editorial "Nothing yields a better snapshot of the failure and chaos of Italy's fiscal democ-racy than the fact that in just five years this country should have succeeded in producing no fewer than 1,800 new tax regulations," the newspaper

Corriere della Sera said in a

with Bielan

....

### American blacks step up war on 'terrorist' Nigeria

#### Jonathan Freedland

ASTING Nigeria as the South Africa of the 1990s, a high-profile cohas launched an all-out cam-paign against the military dictatorship of General Sani Abacha — the community's first such attack on a black

African government, In a move hailed as a political coming of age for black America, veterans of the battle against apartheid will this week step up their war on the "terrorist govern-ment" of Nigeria.

The former presidential

candidate Jesse Jackson, writers Maya Angelou and Alice Walker, musician Quincy Jones, and actors Bill Cosby and Danny Glover have joined TransAfrica the movement which led the United States struggle against apartheld in South Africa in urging the Clinton admin-istration to punish the Nige-

rian regime. Several black congressmen have proposed a raft of US sanctions against Nigeria, ac-cusing Gen Abacha's regime of conducting a reign of terror, corruption and envi-ronmental degradation.

The Nigeria Democracy bill—tabled after last November's execution of playwright and human rights activist Ken Saro-Wiwa—seeks an end to all US aid to the country, a ban on flights be-

#### 'Britain wasn't a leader against apartheid, and it won't be one now'

tween the US and Nigeria, and an eventual oil embargo. Campaigners also want a South Africa-style break in all sporting links with Nigeria, with the US possibly denying visas to the Nigerian team in this summer's Olympic Games in Atlanta.

The Clinton administration The Clinion administration will shortly announce its own action against the Abacha regime. It has already suspended financial credit, restricted admission to the US to Nigerians linked to the dictatorship and announced a ban on defence sales. Activists expect stiffer sanctions soon. "It won't be an oil em-

bargo, but it will be something with quantifiable bite," TransAfrica president Randall Robinson said yesterday. Campaigners are still push-ing President Clinton on the fuel ban, arguing that since the US buys nearly half of Ni-geria's oil this would be the quickest way to hurt the country's military rulers who are accused of siphoning off oil profits into their own

#### 'Silence in the face of such tyranny does no service to our community

overseas bank accounts. Mr Robinson, the father of the US anti-apartheld movement, fears that opposition from some of Washington's allies, including Britain, may be holding Mr Clinton back.

"Britain has always bears a "Britain has always been a problem," he said. "They weren't leaders against apartweren't leaders against apart-beid, and I don't expect them to be leaders in this case." For black Americans, the new Nigeria campaign repre-

sents a dramatic shift from the previous policy of a united front with black Africa whatever its shortcomings.
"It's certainly not comfortable to be publicly self-critical in this way," Mr Robinson admitted. "But you do our com-

munity no service with silence in the face of this kind of tyr-anny. Does it indicate a political maturation? Probably,"
Although most black leaders back the Nigeria effort, some argue that publicising the flaws of sub-Saharan Africa's most populous country will encourage Republican budget-cutters anxious to end all US aid to the continent

self-government.
The loudest dissenter is Louis Farrakhan, the fiery leader of the Nation of Islam, who angered many African Americans in January when he broke ranks to visit Lagos. "What he did was give comfort to a tyrannical dictator," said Mr Robinson.

Others fear that revelations of

Nigerian strocities play to the worst stereotypes of black

The TransAfrica leader ac mitted that opposition to Ni-geria did not trigger the "visceral reflex" that apartheid provoked in American blacks. "But the victims of this suffer just as much as they would if the tyranis were white."



## India sets limit on protest

EARFUL that they are on the brink of a long siege that could wreck plans to hold elections in the Kashmir valley, India tried both threats and diplomacy yesterday to persuade sepa-ratist militants holed up in-side Kashmir's hollest shrine

The stand-off between security forces and militants at Srinagar's Hazrat Bal, a white marble shrine which believ ers say contains a hair from the beard of the Prophet Mohammed, began on Sunday, when at least 10 people, in-

killed in a gunbattle. Indian negotiators tried to lozan militants to leave the shrine, fearing a repeat of the 32-day slege of the mosque in 1993. But the talks broke down when the imam and

trustees of the mosque

efused to participate. As a protest strike took hold in the capital, Indian negotiators gave the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) militants 10 minutes to leave the mosque. The authorities then retreated with a promise to

resume talks early today. The government of the state of Jammu and Kashmir later released a statement saying

or desecrating any religious place" after Wednesday "will not be shown any lenlency". The statement, which offi-cials said was aimed at the

separatists in Hazrat Bal, called on all militants to surrender by tomorrow, and to turn over arms.
"After this date any person indulging in militant activi-ties, harbouring militants or

possessing unauthorised weapons will be dealt [with] severely under law," it said. The militants, who belong to a pro-Pakistan faction of

the JKLF, threatened to burn down Hazrat Bal, a symbol of Kashmiri identity in the valley. Sunday's shoot-out came

nouncement of parliamentary elections in Kashmir on May

Earlier this month, four militant leaders broke ranks with Kashmiri separatists to meet the home minister. S. B Chavan, in New Delhi for talks. But the militants have since condemned plans to hold elections for three parliamentary seats in Kashmir, and there are fears that a long confrontation at Hazrat Bal could intensify Kashmiri op-

position to the polls. A police spokesman said lest night that negotiations had yielded some results. Three bodies were removed from the site, he said. Hazrat Bal is a traditional

action, and police in Sringar

used tear gas to break up two demonstrations. Shabir Siddiqi, leader of the JKLF faction which has controlled the shrine since last year, is among the armed The JKLF leader has de-

nanded that security forces lift a curiew on areas within a mile radius of the shrine, and mosque so that his men can

leave in safety.

Police vehicles patrolling the area have warned people to stay at home, and journal-

to appeal to security forces not to use force to end the stand-off, saying he feared a bloodbath. A JKLF commander, Bashrat Raza, was among the nine militants killed when security forces stormed the shrine on Sunday, Mr Siddiqi said.

Hazrat Bal was the scene of several shoot-outs last year between Mr Siddigi's JKLF and renegade militants, be-lieved to be the creation of the Indian security forces. The loss of the shrine would be a ists have been barred from lists credibility in the valley.

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### Big flush to clean Grand Canyon

Martin Walker in Washington

GREAT wall of water Awill be unleashed down the Grand Canyon today, in an artificial spring flood that is meant to repair ecological damage caused by dams built 33 years ago.
White water rafters stood

ready to launch their rubber boats on the Colorado river, to take advantage of the flood that will take an estimated 20 hours to travel the 292 miles through the Grand Canyon. For two weeks, 30 billion

gallons a day will be poured through the narrow, winding canyon, one of the world's natural



yon, and still be 2ft higher than usual when it reaches

The water will raise the most beautiful spots on More than 200 scientists river level by 6ft in the cane earth," said Bruce Babbitt, will monitor the flow down

the Pacific Ocean.
"This is about restoring one of the most amazing,

flew out yesterday to push the button that will open the sluice gates on the Glen Canyon dam. Over the years, the dam network has reduced the river temperature by 20F, built up deep layers of silt

that used to be washed downstream, allowed new and now threatens the Grand Canyon. After 13 years and Glen Canyon environmen-research costing \$60 mil-tal studies group, said. lion (£40 million), and de-

spite strong opposition from local fishermen, ex-perts have concluded that without the floods, the shoreline will disappear. They point out that the mile-high canyon cliffs are

starting to crumble.

the interior secretary, as he length of the canyon. flew out yesterday to push the button that will open ice cold after being river is expected to resume its brown colour, celebrated in folk sones as "too

thick to drink, too thin to "If it works at this dam, tree and plant species to drive out the native flora, and now threatens the dams where we have been and now threatens the dams where we have been damned and the dams where we have been damned and the dam where we have been damned and the damned and dams where we have had similar problems." David Wegner, who heads the

One of the hardestworked rivers on earth, the Colorado intermittently dries up by the time it reaches the coast in Mexico. It powers some of the country's most powerful dams, and keeps the neon lights burning in Las Vegas.

#### Britain attacks China for plan to | Okinawa governor faces scrap Hong Kong's assembly

Diplomatic Editor

BRITAIN yesterday warned China that there was "no justification" for its plans to dismantle Hong Kong's elected parliament when it takes over the colony in 1997. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said China must show that the people of Hong Kong will be ruling the territory, as promised in the Anglo-Chinese joint declara-tion of 1984, which paved the

way for the transfer of power. Britain's ambassador to China, Sir Leonard Appleyard, also expressed hold presidential elections. concern to Beijing after the talks between the Prime Minister, John Major, and China's prime minister, Li Peng, in Bangkok earlier this month.

China has made it clear that there will be little room for direct elections or dissent, and that it plans to disband Hong Kong's Legislative Council and replace it with a new "provisional legislature".

Statements upbraiding the Chinese are made by Britain in the knowledge that they Reuter adds from Taipel: China yesterday ended 18 days of war games and Tai-wan offered reconcillation in

moves that raised hopes for the easing of tensions. China said it had ended eight days of manoeuvres wrapping up exercises which had sought to turn voters against Taiwan's president, Lee Teng-hui, who scored a resounding victory in Satur-day's presidential election.

In an unexpected overture. a top Taiwanese official said China's cherished dream of reunification could be achieved in just four years as long as Beijing agreed to "We want to tell the Communist Party that China will reunify very soon," James

Soong, a provincial governor and close ally of President Lee, told a rally. Mr Soong was reiterating Taipei's long-held policy, but it was the first time a date had been officially mooted. Taiwan's stock and foreign

exchange markets rose yesterday after Mr Lee's victory. The stock market recorded its 10th straight daily gain, end-Kong and to remind Beijing ended the day at 27.258 that events after 1997 will be against the United Science of the Consely followed.

### showdown on US bases

Kevin Rafferty in Tokyo

ASHOWDOWN is looming between the Japanese government and the local authorities on the southern island of Okinawa after the high court ordered the island's governor yesterday to sign the renewal of land ases for United States bases. If, as seems likely, Masahide Ota refuses. Ryutaro Hashimoto, the prime minister, will sign them.

It was the second blow for opponents of the bases which dominate the tiny island — 60 per cent of the 46,000 US troops based in Japan are in Okinawa. Mr Hashimoto said at the weekend that he would not move the bases to the mainland because of new security tension in Asia.

Government officials said Mr Ota's objections were counter to national interests. Mr Ota has refused to sign the lease renewals, claiming to do so would infringe landowners' property rights and be unconstitutional.

The branch of the Fukuoka high court in Okinawa's capital, Naha, said he had no authority to make a judgment on whether appropriation of

land was constitutional. Judge Ichiro Otsuka issued own land," he said.

the order to sign the compulsory expropriations, saying that refusal "significantly

hinders the public interest" Simmering local discontent about the bases erupted last September when three US servicemen were accused of abducting and raping an Okinawan primary schoolgirl. The incident triggered demonstra-tions, and 3,000 of the almost 32,000 landowners who have plots used by the bases de-manded their land back when the leases expire. The servicemen were found guilty this

month and sentenced to up to seven years in jail. Mr Ota has said he wants all the bases closed by 2015. He claims they hinder the island's development as a tour ist resort and base for light industry.

With Mr Ota likely to continue to refuse to sign, the government will probably fail to complete the necessary legal work before leases on land occupied by a US telecommunications centre ex-

pire at the end of the month. Shoichi Chibana, who owns part of the plot, has threat-ened to find a way in with his children on April 1, to play traditional Okinawan music. "There is no reason why I am being refused entry to my

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### **Hiding behind experts**

Tory populism has gone just when they need it

In almost every other field of policy law and order, education, economics, to name but three — modern Conservatives have got where they are by hating the experts. They have despised them as conspirators against the public and rubbished them as defenders of an unacceptable status quo. Yet here we are, in the middle of a catastrophic collapse of public confidence in a major piece of British agribusiness — the beef industry - and the health secretary Stephen Dorrell has placed the Government's entire credibility squarely in the hands of just such a group of experts — the catchily titled Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee. Faced with their latest report on the beef crisis yesterday, Mr Dorrell has simply decided that the experts must be right. Apart from following the committee's advice, the Government has decided that it will do — nothing.

The committee's report essentially reiterates its previous views. It says that the dangers of BSE infection in British beef are "extremely small". It says that "additional measures" are not needed, though it does provide ministers with a permissive future get-out by adding the words "at this stage". This may be very sound scientific advice, but it is simply unrealistic about the real world and the state of public concern. It ignores the reality that the experts are tarnished by their poor track record in the past, by their alleged closeness to controversial producer interests and by the apparent exclusion from the committee's membership of prominent dissenting opinions. Whatever the justice of that case, the net result is that none of the things which might have reassured a dismayed public are to be done. No ban on | day. But their instincts have let them beef and beef products in schools and down badly this time, and the voters

THIS is bizarre, going on revolutionary. | suspected herds. As a way of reclaiming the initiative this is extraordinarily brave — or extraordinarily stupid.

It is not as though this was the only policy open to the Government, even on the basis of the experts' conclusions. For instance, they could and should have taken up Labour's suggestion that BSE-free herds should be issued with a quality control endorsement, so that consumers can know that at least this beef is free from suspicion. Such quality control would not only reassure the public, but could act as a powerful incentive within the industry to ensure standards. They could and should have taken up the idea of publishing a full list of beef and beef-related products, so that consumers can be clear when they make purchases. They could and should have gone along with the idea of random testing for BSE at slaughter-houses. Again, this would reassure the public that something was being done, and put pressure on the market to ensure that standards are being maintained. Given the figures of BSE incidence published yesterday, which show this is an overwhelmingly British problem, this is a crazy failing.

For much of the past two decades, the Conservatives have instinctively positioned themselves on the populist side of many policy arguments, leaving Labour as the sometimes hapless defenders of the experts in many fields. Few can dispute that this instinct has brought the Tories rich political rewards. The beef crisis shows a remarkable reversal of roles, with Labour plugging the populist concerns and the Conservatives doggedly asserting that the experts know best. Tory MPs rallied indignantly and self-righteously to Mr Dorrell's support yesterhospitals. No moratorium on British will surely punish them for it when beef sales. No slaughter of infected or they get the chance.



WORLD WATER day passed the global | global warming is likely to generate flicker of interest. A UN conference in terms are altered by climatic change. Beijing was warned that we are stlently | The real problem is consumption rather but surely heading towards "water than supply. Crop irrigation consumes shock", which will dwarf any oil crisis 90 per cent of all water used in poor precious as oil: it is mined like any other natural resource and has always been the world's largest extractive in- Intensive agriculture is particularly dustry. The new crisis arises because in the last two decades, for the first time in human history, more is being taken out across the globe than nature is putting in. Some 80 countries and 40 per cent of the world's population are already experiencing "water stress".

Acquisition and control of water

resources has driven communities to migrate since pre-historical times. It has generated increasing conflict as the world's river basins became fully colonised: almost half of the world's population now lives in states which have to share their water resources. From the Nile to the Rio Grande via the muchdisputed Jordan, most of the world's best-known rivers are commodities in contention. Control of subaquifer water resources will be as contentious an item on the Israel-Palestinian agenda as the question of ultimate sovereignty. Yet to regard the water crisis as a problem of natural shortage or interstate conflict is to miss the point. junction not to spend money like water Whether water is sufficient or not must depend in the end upon the extent of | through our taps or indirectly to satisfy demand. Cases of unanticipated an unsustainable lifestyle, we must stop drought are relatively rare — though | spending water like water.

village by last Friday with barely a more such cases as distribution patcountries, according to last World Bank report. Nearly half of that is wasted and never gets to the plants. greedy for the water which does reach the fields. The hidden cost of our hankering for out-of-season cut flowers will be paid for far away in Kenya and Peru. The revolution in urban third world consumption habits, hailed as part of the great economic miracle, soaks up more water. The effort to emulate the unreal standards of international tourism, with hot water around the clock and fertiliser-rich golf courses, is phe-nomenally wasteful. The same amount of water which irrigates a hectare of high-yield rice, says the Food and Agriculture Organisation, will fill the baths

of 100 four-star hotel guests for 55 days. Last week's Beijing conference on managing resources for large cities and towns is part of the run-up to the UN Habitat II conference to be held in Istanbul in June. This initiative, which stems from the Rio conference, places the responsibility where it properly lies upon our urban societies. The old inneeds updating. Whether directly

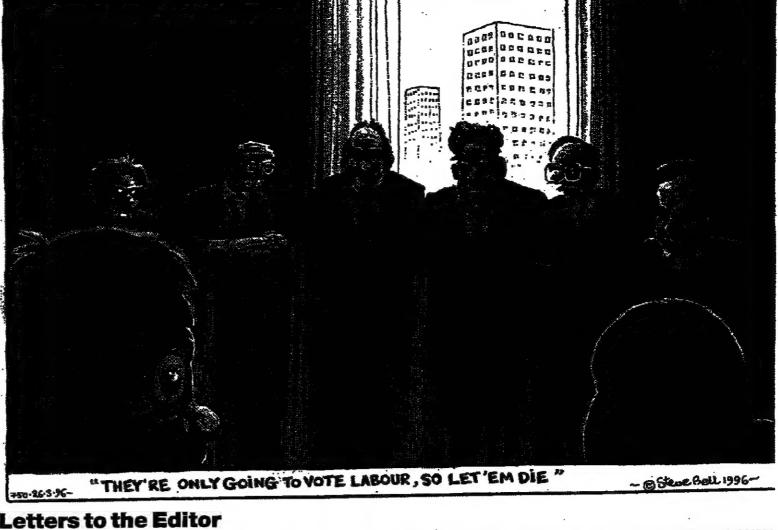
#### Sherwood Forest's stakeholder

Nottingham cools on Robin Hood when his ideas are ripening

COUNTIES, like corporations, need | has to offer." (Whether "Boots" stands strong brand images to attract tourists for the things Boots has to offer is and industry. Nottinghamshire is lucky another most point). Similarly it would in being endowed with a ready-made be pointless to promote Nottingham's image which it has fully exploited. The most famous modern son, Kenneth phrase "Robin Hood Country" is built | Clarke because Clarke might suggest into the county's emblem. Its promotional literature, besides extolling lacemaking, emphasises its location as "the gateway to a timeless treasure trove of which took money from the poor and legend and folklore surrounding the gave it to the rich. To go in one leap world's most famous outlaw - Robin Hood". It even has a site on the Internet offering "Hot Links Within Robin Hood Country" (though it has only recorded 311 visitors since set up in January).

Maybe that is why everything is about to change. Image makers called in by the City (Anglo-Saxon name, Snotingaham) think it is too soft an image and should be dropped. As a spokesman for Boots, Nottingham's biggest employer, puts it: "Robin Hood doesn't is a political party out there willing to really stand for the things that the city | pick up his message and run with it.

shoes and that would be even more confusing for Boots. In any case, the Chancellor is part of a government from a Robin Hood policy to one of Robin-Hood-in-reverse might be too much for punters to swallow. It might also be bad politics. Robin Hood, let's face it, was the first person not only to believe in the currently fashionable theory of stakeholding, but to be prepared to take direct action to achieve a fairer distribution of the stakes. If Nottingham is cooling on the magnetism of its most illustrious citizen, surely there



### Hard facts for farmers to digest Adopting a more

MADE a film about BSE nearly seven years ago which showed ovine and bovine offal being rendered into cattle cake. We posed many questions about the risks of the sheep disease scrapie being transmuted into BSE, and of BSE similarly crossing a species barrier -from cows to humans.

The Government's chief veterinary scientist, Dr Keith Meldrum, told us that BSE was likely to be contained and eradicated "within three or four years". Agriculture min-ister John McGregor assured the NFU that MAFF's research programme could be relied upon to deal with any

ernment has got us in a mess. But are consumers now to be taxed to make sure none of the culprits are out of pocket? And what of the vegetarians, vegans, environmentalists, organic growers and breed-ers, and animal-welfare campaigners, who have warned all along against the risks of unnatural farming practice?
Are these all to be financially
punished too as farmers and
the food trade loss-adjust all their prices? Ian Breach. (Former BBC Environment

Correspondent.) Park Place East, Sunderland.

The gold cup

It looks as if, yes, the Gov-Wetherby.

other animals, so as to in-crease their profits above 30 per cent a year, should not be Mutton's Cottage, St Mabyn, Bodmin, Cornwall.

compensated by the tax-paying consumer. Any other business that produces a defective product is allowed to go under. Why are farmers compensated by a Government that is supposed to believe in market forces? There is ample uncontami-nated beef and milk available

within the EU. Make the greedy farmers who have been better off than most for many years, and have had little concern for the health of the nation, or for their cattle, pay for their greed. C G March. Linton Road.

West Yorkshire LS22 6HE.

ROM 1945 to 1965 I was a farmer and I kept both dairy and beef cattle. In those less-pressurised years we gave the higher-producing milkers concentrates that in the early post-war years had to be home-grown and later, as they became available, proprietary cattle cake made of cereals, imported nuts, cot-ton-seed etc. The idea of adding non-vegetarian items like sheep offal to the diet of herbi-vores would have been

Farmers who knowingly rejected as fundamentally perts I have in mind are those with feed from the remains of Cyril Eyre.

N 1990 I wrote an article published in Farmers Weekly, and reprinted in May 1990 by the Guardian, in which I predicted the chaos that has occurred this month if the Communications. if the Government refused to take precautionary action. I was told at the time by a senior ministry vet that I was "scare-mongering".

Since that date I and many other farmers have taken our

own steps to prevent such a own steps to prevent such a horror on our own farms — either by taking what MAFF considers to be the "extremist" road and going organic, or by simply making sure that all stock are fed on natural feed. But I am concerned that MAFF and the animal-feed manufacturers have neither apologised nor developed positive plans to make sure that such a disaster never happens again. happens again. Catherine Mack.

Norwood Farm, Bath Road, Norton St Philip. Nr Bath BA3 6LP.

HOPE that your readers, 10 years' hence, will not be learning of another U-turn by another set of experts. The ex-

### open policy

WE WELCOME the fact that Tony May (Letters, March 25) has drawn atten-tion to the complex issues atgineering are perfectly safe to and hypocritical of the Dutch, Belgians and French to ban British beef whilst importing British cords, and at the same time to protect the privacy of third

calves from BSE-vulnerble dairy stock for their own veal industry. It is particularly foolhardy of concerned Euro-peans to discriminate against to the people who are the sub-ject of those records.

British beef and not British calves. Karen E Nash. Devonshire Avenue, Southsea PO4 9ED.

Brian P Moss. 93 MW Crescent,

Kingsbury, Tamworth, Staffs B78 2NW.

TEN people die from what may be related to mad cow disease. Result: major panic, revulsion against exting beef, calls for banning beef and killing off Britain's cow stock. Ten children a day are killed by cars on British roads, and over 800 more road casualties are recorded daily. Where's the public outrage? Where is the realisation that cars are too dangerous to tolerate?

Judith Hanna.

Sour Orange

tainly doesn't need it.

fecting people who seek infor-mation from adoption and incare files. The Greater London Record Office has been concerned for some time

parties. It was only after the Access to Personal Files Act 1967 that information in social-services case records became available

Last October we introduced a new service run jointly by the record office and the Corporation of London's Social Services Department to assist people seking information from adoption and in-care

and the help of a social worker are available to enquirers and their counsellors. The service is evolving in parallel with those offered by national organisations such as Dr Barnardo's which have only just introduced a more open-access policy to their files. Deborah G Jenkins.

Head archivist, Greater London Record Office. 40 Northampton Road.

WHY are adoption files treated like state secrets: Tony May is not alone in finding it impossible to view his JOAN Smith's acute piece about the Orange Prize for

own file.

My adoption was finalised at the City of Leicester Juvenile Court way back in 1943.

About 10 years ago, I asked to women's fiction (And the winner is...a woman, March 25) still misses the scheme's see my file - hoping that this greatest fault. Ghettoism doesn't matter — gender is no better or worse than the Commight answer a number of questions. While the authorimonwealth qualification for ties at Leicester confirme the Booker or the age qualifi-cation for the John Llewellyn the existence of my file, they refused me any access to it. A Rees. What matters is that yet kind lady from an Adoption again a large sum of money (£30,000) will go to a single writer who has reached a point where she almost cer-Support Group here in Not-tingham has since informed me that there would be very little in the file anyway.

Releasing my file is not go When my partner sat down to start writing a first novel, ing to cause a run on the pound; it is not going to make the time had to be eked out of her non-office life, leaving me it any easier for the Russian army to sweep across the Rhine or lessen England's chances in the World Cup. alone with the children for weekends and evenings. We both, however, agreed our family life neither could nor should continue like this. As So why this obsessive

Frank Randall. 69 First Avenue, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 1PH.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.

#### TO THAT SLUG - GO OUT AND GET SOME HEALTHY EXERCISE

HOURS GLUED

A tale hawked by predators

nine marriages is likely to survive for 50 years (March 20) made me wonder what propor-tion of those who married in 1945, as my husband and I did, have made 50. A quick check through our Christmas-card list shows that, of our friends and relatives who married about 50 years ago, there are 19 anout so years ago, mere and 15 in-couples still together and 15 in-dividuals whose marriages ended through a partner's death. No divorces. Not bad going, but how typical is it?
Nan Payne.
Durban, Dinedor, Hereford HR2 6LQ.

DID not say, in my research for the Environment Depart ment or to your correspondent that "there is not going to be enough water to go round" (Water curbs unavoidable, March 20), nor rule in or out any particular response to in-

any particular response to in-creasing demands for water, nor claim that restrictions would have to be imposed, nor discuss the idea of government strategy for water companies. The research was purely con-cerned with demand forecasts. Paul Herrington. University of Leicester, Leicester LEI 7RH.

WAS saddened to see you agiving a platform to the anti-raptor lobby (A Country Diary, March 23). The stories ulated by their prey and not quoted emanate from game interests disappointed that, under current legislation. they cannot kill birds of prey. Yes, sparrowhawks kill songbirds but, in a healthy envi-ronment, both will coexist perfectly happily in terms of population levels. Intensive farming is implicated in the decline of songbirds and Ve-ronica Heath would do well to give that subject higher

priority. (Dr) Nick Rossiter. (County bird recorder.) West Barn, Ordley, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 1SX.

chemicals that this once-common predator has become extinct in large parts of the country. And there is a way of protecting small birds: stick gar-den canes into the lawn round the feeders. They will inter-rupt the hawks' attack and allow the birds to escape. Chris Mead.

vice versa. For generations they have evolved, with their

prey species, to form part of a

rich, mixed avifauna. It is only because of agricultural

The Nunnery, Hilborough, Thetford,

#### Circles and squares, approached from the left

A CCORDING to Martin Ket-tile (Shadows of doubt be-hind Blair, March 23). Tony Labour leadership. So the Blair "needs reinforcements as few of the current shadow cabinet "impress as heavy-weight potential ministers". And these reinforcements could be supplied by impos-ing candidates on local Labour parties — many of whom, as Tribune has reported, have been prevented from beginning the election process. The trouble with this is that it fails to recognise that endemic problem that political parties have in accepting independentminded people of principle, for it would seem that their truculence far outweighs their abilities, and the Labour Party is no exception to this. If Labour has too much deadwood at the top, it might just have something to do with the fact that too many people have received preferment in the past for "being one of us". There are plenty of examples

over in favour of clones of the Labour leadership. So the constituencies Kettle describes would be obliged to field yet more clones. Mark Seddon. Editor, Tribune, 308 Gray's Inn Road, London EC1X 8DF.

MATTEEW ENGEL writes that the "sight of marchers and banners no longer stirs the blood" (Monday Sketch, March 25) after an apparently poorly attended anti-racist demonstration in London.

Perhaps he should look northwards. At the same time as the London demo, there was a much larger, successful demonstration taking place in Liverpool in support of the sacked dockers and their dynamic women supporters. Keith Sinclair. Secretary, Hull Trades Council. of talented members of the Hull HU67HJ.

OUR weeks ago more than 15,000 people trod the same route from the Embankment to Trafalgar Square to protest against the Asylum Bill. On Saturday some 800 marched to Dford police station in response to the death in police custody of an asylum-seeker,

What might have made a more interesting story is the lack of any opposition to the Asylum Bill from Her Majesty's Opposition. Since the Tories introduced

thing they want out of the Way.
While it is to be hoped that

Labour vote against the Bill on its final reading, they have done nothing to obstruct this nasty piece of legislation or to force a public debate on it. Chris Bambery. Socialist Workers Party, PO Box 82.

London E3 3LH.

#### A Country Diary

her manuscript was tenta-

tively dropped into the post-box, all we hoped for was that

it would earn her enough childcare to write the next.

Had it not sold (or for not

enough), where would her writing career have been?

Jonathan Myerson. 34 Lillieshall Road,

London SW4 0LP.

nowadays that the funding of rural education puts a burden on parents. A letter of 1889 to the Horsington village schoolmaster survives: "Sir, I bear you intends punishing my boy for not bringing a copy book. I give you to understand it is not in my power to buy copy books." The school, with its schoolmaster's house, was built in 1856 beside a lane through farmland belonging to the squire. It was the result of the rector's initiative and this desperate piece of race the beneficence of the squire baiting the Labour Party has treated the whole thing as an embarrassment and somethrough the garden. There is a playing field and a swim-ming pool. Cows look over the passing horses. Fifty of the 89 half a teaching post, but the few yards down the lane, parents are an effective body.

JOHN VALL

SOMERSET: It is not only | raising large sums for things swimming pool, which my 11year-old guides showed me. We saw the welcoming li-brary in what used to be the schoolmaster's living and dining rooms, the store in his bathroom, and computers in his bedrooms. In the hall, the playgroup that uses it three times a week was busy, and on the shelves was a fine collection of percussion in-struments. More than half the children learn an instrument. the beneficence of the squire one of my guides comes on and gentry. It thrives, in its original buildings and idyllic setting, today. A stream runs pond. There are children and grandchildren of former pupils on the roll. Last year, ming pool. Cows look over the fence. At the start and finish of school, the lane is full of to reminisce. The children liscars, leaving little space for tened and produced a wonderful publication called "Will it children come from outside never end?" and a dramatisathe village. Last year's strin-tion that played to packed gent budget meant the loss of houses at St Margaret's Hall a JOHN VALLING

singles

Catherine Bennett

an Anita Brookner novel, a spinster pre-pares to eat "When dining alone, Kitty Maule tended to

dispatch the meal as quickly as possible and also to dis-

tract herself from the actual business of eating. She found it helpful to balance the tray

on her knees rather than to sit down forlornly at an

Matthew Norman

HE Dankirk spirit is thriving in what may well be the most vulnerable business in the world this week. At the Popeseye, a restaurant near Olympia in West London. the problem is simply stated. While the menu offers no starters whateve there are exactly three choices of entrée: rump steak, sirloin steak or fillet teak. Save for chips and side salads, and a few puds, that is it. "You could say we are a little exposed at the minute, yes," says Ian Hutchison, the heroic owner and chef, "but so far things are fine." You will, all the same, be planning to change your menu? "Far from it. I'm thinking of raising my prices." This Diary has eaten much of Mr Hutchison's meat—it is hung for a fortnight before travelling from Scotland by train, and should he eaten extremely rare lest the heat affect those prions — and cannot recommend it highly enough. However, another Popeseye regular has buckled under the pres sure to moderate eating habits. "In the light of all this publicity, I will no longer be eating six-ounce

EANWHILE, in shock medical news, a man reporting to a specialist after extensive neurological tests has heard that the news was mixed.
"Okay, doctor," he said,
"what's the bad news?" The doctor said: "You've got mad cow disease." "Oh my God," said the man, "but what's the good news?" "There's nothing to worry about," said the specialist.
"You'll know sod all about it
by Wednesday week."

fillets." Auberon Waugh tells me. "I will be having eight-ounce fillets instead."

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YSTERY enshrouds Terry Major-Ball, the author and television personality. Chatting away about his diet (he has made a sudden spurt, and lost a stone). Terry lets slip that he is soon to leave us. "I'm going to Australia in April, actually," says Terry, "to attend a flower and garden show in Melbourne. Terry will be away for a week, and will be travelling with Quantas, but more than this he is loath to reveal. He will not, for example, confirm that gnomes are involved (his last trip to Australasia, you may recall, revolved around the International Gnome Convention in New Zealand).
"I'm going to have a look at the show," he says, "that's all." Is there, I wonder, a TV film crew involved? "I am simply going to cast my eye over the show," he insists. "Perhaps we can talk about it more when I return." Perhaps indeed, and upon this enigmatic note, we say farewell and God speed.

MAKI-GEORGE, the Cypriot waiter and perennial candidate in GCSE English Language. has flown into the most frightful bate at an article in this newspaper. T-G recently claimed that someone is menacing him most grievously (rumour sug-gests it is a Bolivian arms trader to whom he once served a poorly-mixed highball on a yacht), and the Guardian's report of this has upset his tender sensibilities. It implied he is rightwing and racist, and us to question whether it is
wise to go on treating nature
— the Earth, other species,
and even our buman genetic even suggested he was para-noiac. However, as T-G who suggested a curfew for all black men under 25 after being mugged by three "black cowards" — put it in the Sunday Times, this is nothing more than malicious invention by those at this paper who envy him. Of course, and I personally wish to dissociate myself from that article. "Joie de vivre is not a Guardian trait," he sagely wrote. "It genuinely conservative policy is, and how fine to read him on such joyous form.

AM relieved to note that dear old Michael Winner can still find the time in schedule to keep one eye on newspaper coverage of his activities. The following apology has appeared in the Aberdeen Press & Journal: "In our issue dated March 18, it was said that Mr Michael Winner wore 'grubby Y-fronts'. We accept that this is not true and that it should not have been touching, of course, but since when was it libelious ing Y-fronts?



## A butcher's hook at the Government

### Commentary

Hugo Young

HE LAST great minis-terial health panic oc-curred in 1980. Wil-liam Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, began to run round London talking of a deadly plague about which we knew nothing, that might soon infect thousands, maybe millions, perhaps even closing the country down. This was something out of Africa that went by the name of Aids, which a secret White-hall committee was examining under Whitelaw's chair-manship. His excitement was manship. His excitement was shared by other pillars of level-headed rectitude, like guys for a condition which beyond their appeared, in irreverent mo-ments, to be something comical about the agitated incom-prehension of the elderly British establishment, as it ruminated on sexual prac-tices that had never previously crossed its collective mind.

The Aids panic subsided, and the British Government been in the saddle, with min-gradually became admired in isters following faithfully be-much of the world for the hind. For this reason, they 1980s, to induce or compel into the human species. In de-

sis over the safety of British beef occurs

within a month of

the 10th anniver

sary of the explosions at Cher

nobyl. The two meltdowns

that occurred on April 26, 1986, at the Chernobyl nu-

clear power station, 72 miles from the Ukrainian capital of

Kiev, created a mile-high

plume of radioactive gas and particles whose failout was felt in countries as distant as Sweden and Greece. A large

area around Chernobyl remains deserted and will be

uninhabitable for several cen-

the natural environment are still not precisely calculable

They are undoubtedly highly significant. Official Soviet at

tempts to play down their

seriousness were a key factor in fuelling the demands for

glasnost and for Ukrainian

independence which trig-gered the collapse of the Soviet Union itself.

The public health crisis

that may result from links between BSE and Creutz-

feldi-Jakob Disease (CJD) in humans has repercussions and implications as profound

as those of Chernobyl. It

forces us to reconsider the culture of technological mas-tery of nature that we inherit

from earlier ages. It compels

inheritance — as merely a pool of resources to be ex-

ploited in the service of our present wants. Is it any longer acceptable that, when-ever evidence surfaces of the

riskiness of our interventions in natural processes, govern-ments should consistently err

on the side of technological

optimism? Is there not now

an overwhelming case for a

and respect for nature rather

one guided by prudence

The long-term effects of this

of both its medical and its social approach to the prolif-erating crisis. But politicians were dealing there with a problem, albeit a terrifying one, for which they held no causative responsibility. Aids was and is an awful visitation, which has claimed thousands of victims. But ministers were and are not

guilty.

They would like to say the same about mad cow dise Stephen Dorrell was saying it again yesterday. At no stage, it startlingly appeared, had ministers made a single misjudgment about how to handle BSE. Mr Dorrell represents himself and colleagues past and present as not in any way contributory agents of BSE, with its associated human condition Creutzfeld-Jakob, but as its victims. Like the direct sufferers, 10 of whom are now admitted to be

esponsibility.
This isn't an altogether unreasoning contention. Ministers listened, said the Health Secretary, to scientists. For the last 10 years, they've had to balance the expert advice

comparative enlightenment | should not be blamed. Indeed Dorrell himself takes special credit for insisting on public-ity for the new wisdom of the moment last week, when one lot of scientists went to the Government and inform it that they had revised their predecessors opinion.
It is a seductive thesis.

suppose the spread of BSE might have happened under any government in any country. The fact is that it happened on the Tory watch, and this is more than coinci-dence. Two of the strands dence. Two of the strands running through the ghastly history are distinctively Conservative. At the edge where discretionary judgment, otherwise known as ministical decision, can tip one way or the other, its Tory tincture has been evident. has been evident.

The first was in the matter of regulation. The evidence is striking. In 1980, Tory ministers countermanded draft reg ulations written under the previous government which would have restricted and policed the licences under which animal proteins could be processed. They went instead for self-regulation. Later, to save fuel costs, rules were relaxed about the temperature at which the animal remnants could be cooked bethey've been getting, and weigh the probabilities. All feed. As part of the same the time, the scientists have mind-set, not enough was

All this spoke for the second Tory bias, again perceptible in decisions that might have gone either way, in favour of farmers and the productive profitability of their industry. Feeding bone-meal to harbi-vores was, among other things, a way of maximising product and profit. It wasn't necessarily going to be catastrophic, but it increased the range of risk to the consumer. It became built into the profit-chain in parallel with the food-chain. This was a phenomenon that Tory ministers, at the margin, would accept more readily than Labour ministers as a fact of commer-cial life.

On the other hand, there are the scientists. Here, I think, what Mr Dorrell revealed yesterday was a de-formity which is all too likely to afflict any government in power. In every answer he rooted himself to the scien-

Two of the strands running through the ghastly history are distinctively Conservative

tists' opinion, with a booming indifference to its obvious frailties. The scientists, after all, have been wrong before. The ones the Government listened to between 1986 and 1989 were wrong in the lack of urgency they brought to their diagnosis of BSE, and its probable cause in the offal and other rejected parts of any these. They were similarly imals. They were similarly mistaken in the certainty

farmers to slaughter infected cows.

All this spoke for the second arrors of advice and decision.

Consenting For the Health Secretary to invoke science exclusively yesterday sounded, therefore, like the prejudice of a man determined above all else to

damp down national alarm.

He spoke of "scientists" as though these were of a single school that could not be ques tioned. He overlooked the his toric fact that it is the scientists whom officialdom rejected, such as Professor Lacey at Leeds and Dr Harang at Newcastle, whose opinions of a few years ago turn out to have been broadly correct. In this he was behaving more like a minister than a Tory. A Labour minister would almost ministers the pressures would be identical: to listen to scientists whom their department selected for the reliability rather than the boldness of their judgments. One thing government scientists are not paid for is to sound an alarm that might panic the party and, just possibly, ruin bits of the national economy.

A Labour government would have difficulty doing any better with its scientists. A Labour Britain will be just as vulnerable as Tory Britain to the appalling consequences of our heavily-industrialised food business. But this doesn't let the present Gov-ernment off the hook. Postmodern doctrine, as promul-gated by Sir Robin Butler, holds that while ministers are accountable for everything, they are responsible for just about nothing. Its companionpiece, advanced on the back of the Scott Report, says that as long as ministers sincerely acted for the best, the fact that they were wrong should not be held against them. I don't think either talk-out should save these ministers from culpability for a disaster of which we have not even now.

that is not soluble by techno-

There are many signs that such hopes are hubristic. Tuberculosis and other infec-

tious diseases are returning in forms that are highly resis-

not begun to understand in

our everyday environment. The pursuit of intensive agri-

culture through the development of high-yielding crops has produced monocultures

that are exceptionally vulner-

able to disease. In these and other examples, the modern project of constructing a tech-

nosphere in which the human

species is freed from depen-dency upon the Earth is com-

ing up against limits imposed

by nature. It is as if the Earth itself were resisting our at-tempt to transform into an

adjunct of human purposes. We cannot undo the techno-

logical progress of the past several centuries. Nor should

we attempt to do so, since

practically everything that is worthwhile in modern societ-

ies comes from their no

less comes from their holonger living on the edge of subsistence — an achievement that only technological advance has made possible. The lesson to be drawn from the prospect of a CJD epidemic is not Luddism. It is that we must represent the path.

that we must respect the natural world on which we depend

more, and invest fewer of our

hopes in the project of trans

forming it by the use of tech-

logical ingenuity.

Brookner's introspective heroines: the lovelorn Kitty, the patient Blanche, and blighted Dr Weiss. In the new era of the "happy single", these spinsters must be regarded as trail-blazing achievers, with a flair for independent living dependent living.
Similarly, Philip Larkin's
Mr Bleaney is now to be envied for his abundant leisure time and the idiosyncratic de cor of his bedsit. Larkin ques tioned Mr Bleaney's mood, when he contemplated his surroundings, and considered "that how we live measures our own nature", but this is to forget the individual's need

for private space and time. Uninhibited by company and the demands of conversation Bleaney is able to explore his interest in gardening and in-dulge in lax personal hygiene without interference or criticism. It is couples, who can only dream of long evenings spent with a tray and the radio, who now deserve our sympathy.
Last week's Mintel survey revealed that the majority of

people who were once dispar-aged as spinsters and bach elors, are now happy and suc-cessful "singles". They have lots of money, which they in-vest in alcohol and cigarettes; and abundant free time, which they spend at the pub, in the garden, and in chewing

organic foodstuffs.
The survey provided a long-overdue opportunity for paralleled personal fulfilment. In the first place, they are spared the torments of shared domesticity. "I don't know anyone who is happy living with someone else," de-clared Jenny Diski. Another novelist, Lynne Truss, was no less dismissive: "Single people make couples narvous | preparation for the ultimate because they are free spirits | privacy of the grave.

who have kicked away the with have kicked away the ladder of dependence," she alleged. "They get lots of un-disturbed sleep, and don't waste time arguing about bins or marmalade." How many couples can say as much? For some, arguments about bins and marmalade go

on for weeks, even years. So what do these free spirits do, once they have de cisively put out the trash, and smoothly replaced the mar-malade? Paint? Compose? Write poetry? They do as they please. "And if this also please. "And if this also means that they pick their own feet and talk for hours on the phone," Truss challenged, "who cares?" Well, nobody, that's who. "They eat home-delivery pizzas without shame, straight from the box," she feistily continued, "Once I installed a catflap all by myself..."

ten to the radio, or even some times to wander about, as if only lending herself to the task of digestion."

Although singles like to advertise their individuality, their cherished eccentricities can be strikingly similar. task of digestion."

In the past — such is the force of convention — it has been customary to pity Brookner's introspective particular, in eating odd theromes: the lovelorn Kitty, the particular in the Daily Mail, Jane Creen made much of this Green made much of this treat: "If I come home in the middle of the night and decide to raid the freezer for Ben & Jerry's Chunky Monkey ice cream, I can eat the whole tub and no one's around to call

> Spects, these solitaries protest too much. One happy single boasts of his fru-gality: "You don't have to buy any presents." In fact most of the singles pleasures, from monopoly of the remote control, to sole occupancy of a bathroom, are unlikely to tempt any half-contented couple; some of their habits are simply repulsive. One can only feel sympathy for the many blameless cats and dogs forced to bear mute witness to the nocturnal scoffings and foot-pickings, to the scattered toenail-clippings and piles of spontaneously abandoned

washing up.
But this, according to Mintel, is the way of the future:
we are to become a nation of we are to become a nation of premature pensioners. It is not a happy thought. "They that have grown old in a single state," thought Dr Johnson, "are generally found to be morose, fretful, and captious." This, though monstrously unfair to many a productive and amiable spin-ster, is already borne out by tant to antibiotics. Male fertilisingle men and women to pro-our younger singles, with ity has been declining, more their status. Far from their proud aversion to intiapparently as a consequence envying couples, it appears macy, their conviction that of changes we have made but that singles enjoy lives of unsingleness is not just a fact of life, but "an achievement" By the year 2000 these achievers will occupy one-

third of the country's households, some in new estates, built especially to house a generation of people who can no longer bear to share a bedroom. At least it's a good





than groundless confidence in the powers of technology?
There can be little doubt that some of the responsi-bility for our current crisis falls on Thatcherite policies of deregulation which, for much of the 1980s, allowed cattle to be fed meat rendered from sheep contaminated by scrapie. New-right policies rank long-term considerations of public health and the integrity of the environ-ment a long way behind pres-ent risks to commercial profit. The immense power of the farming and food lobbies in Britain meant that neoli-beral policies here in the 80s

responsibilities of govern-ment and aimed to privatise environmental risk by transenvironmental risk by transferring responsibility to the many malign inheritances of market. In such a climate it the 80s that we will have to make the such a climate it the 80s that we will have to bid it not occur to anyone

beral policies here in the 80s were bound to favour producer interests over public across animal species to the favour many ways, the Government's current predicancer is a direct result of a given the enormity of the danger ways and from the technological animal species was not and is industrialisation of farming animal species was not and is industrialisation of farming animal species was not and is industrialisation of farming animal species was not and industrialisation of farming and from the technological animal species was not and from the technological animal species was not and species to the species of th

fatal combination of the ger posed by the possibility of hubris which pervades our power of those producer lob an epidemic of CJD, it is not entire culture. Farming today bies with an anti-government at all insignificant. During is an industry at the cutting ideology committed to mini-the Thatcherite period a poletic of technological intermising environmental risk.

New-right thought scoffed avoid or minimise such incalat concern for the environment, denied the ecological risks, never stood a chance of being adopted.

The ideology committee to minimise to processes. It embodies, more even than much traditional manufacturing industry, the modern being adopted.

The ideology committee to minimise such incalational manufacturing in industry, the modern being adopted. The present threat to public of raw materials for human

market. In such a climate it the 80s that we will have to was easy to confuse risks that cope with in the coming are unquantifiable with risks years. It would nevertheless what nature has evolved to be modern achievements. We college, Oxford

that are insignificant. The be a mistake to think that a herbivorous species might that is good in our culture. It risk to human health posed responsibility for the envi- be dangerous? Yet even such is easily caricatured as unreaby the transmission of dis- ronmental dangers we are fac- an act of folly is less hubristic sonably risk-averse. The evithan policies for the genetic engineering of animal snecles grander project of subduing be repeated, perhaps on a nature to human designs. Is it grander scale. It would be a grander project of subduing altogether fanciful to see the sad commentary on the threat of a major outbreak of human capacity for learning CJD as a symptom of nature's from its mistakes if, 10 years rebellion against human after Chernobyl, we were to

species is independent of na-ture. This belief is at the root

nology. Farming practices which treat animals not as living creatures but as assem blages of manipulable genes and proteins must be reformed. Projects of genetic engineering that propose to alter species — including the human species — for the sake of commercial or even hu-manitarian benefit must be viewed with suspicion. The potential benefits of new technologies must always be weighed against their risks. We should be ready to err on the side of caution. A genuinely conservative policy of this kind goes against the grain of much that is good in our culture. It dence of recent history sug-gests that it is technological that are now on the scientific and commercial agenda. The industrialisation of farming is only an incident in a much sasters of the past decade will

hubris?

Much of our culture is still animated by the anthropocentric belief that the human species is independent of nahold for us.

fail to grasp the warning against human hubris that that disaster, and the one that may be unfolding in Britain, hold for us.

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Andrew Roth writes Claude Bourdet (obtivery, March 25)

spirits of the French left. I got to appreciate him as the London correspondent of France. Observatour in the 1950s. Regular telephone contact was refreshed personally every year, especially in the early 1950s, by his visits to Labour conferences usually as a guest speaker at Tribune meetings His excellent English and bub-

bling sense of the ridiculous

He got on very well with

Michael Foot, Aneurin Bevan

and Jennie Lee, but could be touchingly trusting about com-

rades' promises. He once told me with pride that he had persuaded Bevan to write an

article for him. I warned him

not to count on it, because Nye

was tied to a rival French weekly which paid considera-

bly better, but Claude an-nounced the article.

A few days later he called in a panic. The article had not

arrived and he could not raise

Nye or Jennie. Would I try?

Knowing Jennie's hatred of journalists, I reluctantly agreed. When I got hold of Jennie, she barked something

down the telephone. The article never arrived. This

did not stop Claude from accepting the next October's in-vitation to speak at the Tri-

bune meeting. At the preceding dinner, Jennie evi-

dently leant over to him and urged, "Will you please stop Andy Roth harassing us?" Any editor who could turn a grinning cheek to that sort of u

place in a journalists' heaven.

Rowens told me about her "uncle", and how nice sex is.

She says it's the best indoor

recreation she has yet discovered, particularly in the after-

noon which is the only time

he can get away from his wife. She says it's like an old

French song which just goes on and on, and I really ought

did to prevent herself getting

are things called Volspar Gels which are quite effective, but the best thing is to go to the Marie Stopes clinic and get a Dutch cap. I told her all about

Gerhardt and Jo, and she said it sounded very boring and rather decadent. Of course I'm not decadent at all really,

I only wish I was. Joan Wynd-

Another day

made him very popular.

# The scourge of Militant

78, was general secretary of the Labour Party durperiods of the party's history. His tenure of the post will always be accompanied by the memory of the problems which beset the party at the end of the 1970s.

Hayward was a staumch leftwinger with a solid basis in the Labour Party and a profound understanding of what moved and mattered to its membership. One of the sequences of this was that he was sometimes, quite unfairly, blamed personally for contributing to the difficulties that arose over the leftwing constitutional demands until the 1983 general election

He owed his promotion within the party hierarchy to the fact that he was known as an independent minded leftfirst class tactical operator he was not particularly ambitious. In his early days as a party agent he would probably have been more surprised than anyone at the suggestion that by 1975 Tony Benn could write in his Diaries that Ron Hayward — along with Har-old Wilson, Jack Jones and Michael Foot — "make up the quadrumvirate that runs the

He owed his election as general secretary in 1972 to Benn's vote. It occurred in hilarious circumstances. deputy general secretary, Gwynn Morgan, would succeed to the post, but the leftwingers on the National Executive Committee supported Hayward as an alternative candidate. Harold Wilson. who was then Leader of the Opposition, had declared that would not vote - but was persuaded that this would ead to the election of Morgan and a victory for supporters



leisure interests and how be

had spent his boyhood, and I thought he replied that he

ice-skating. He looked ex-

prosperity to his parish and his people. And that being so, argues, how can it matter it

vulgarity prospers as well as

traits and in this one, as in

many of Lavin's, the portrait

is perfect: "And what a sharp ear the old man had for dis-

covering illicit pregnancies In a matter of hours he'd have nipped the scandal in

the bud and, with alarming despatch, married off the of-fending girl. Wherever poss-

ible he married her to the

father of the child, but if for

any reason that was not possible, he'd unload her on to

some ageing but compliant

bachelor ... Frequently, girls thus hastened into wed

lock ripened into pious ma-trons upon whom the Canon could later count..."

tracting from the depths of the unre-

markable a universal

truth. She succeeded in mak-ing moments timeless, in

ism with parochialism the world over, and in illuminat-

ing people and places, words and things, by touching them

with the magic of the rarely

gifted storyteller. As a per-

son, she was both humble

and certain, complicated and

simple - an apt refection of

short story of today owes her

Our relationship, if it can be

a very great debt.

everything else?

Stand and deliver . . . Ron Hayward at a Labour Party Conference in Blackpool

ported Hayward and the can- his casting vote. This was | didates tied at 14 votes each.
It was then proposed that Benn, as party chairman, should have the casting vote and this, too, tied at 14 votes each. The meeting adjourned and Wilson discreetly persuaded an elderly trade union delegate that while he did not from Morgan, he could never-theless vote in favour of

carried, Benn voted for Hay-ward — and so began his 10 years of torment at Transport House and, latterly, in the new headquarters in Wal-worth Road to which he oversaw the party's transfer. During an interview Hay-ward gave me on his election.

tremely puzzled before replying that he was talking about one of the most often told stories about him originated. "boy scouting". His voice, his friendly pipe-smoking image and his

reminder of that in his ac-cent. I asked him about his described the Labour Party as having "as many caucuses as Heinz had soups" - all assisted to provide an accurate was very fond of skating. I inquired politely whether he preferred roller-skating or picture of a genial party offi-cial. But he was a shrewd politician, too. He started work as an apprentice cabi-net-maker before the second world war, served in the RAF then joined the Labour Party

assistant regional organiser in 1950 and regional organiser for the southern area in 1959. It was during his 10 years in this job that he established a reputation for standing up against the old rightwing who held sway in the National Agent's department. In 1969 when the late Reg Underhill was expected to become the National Agent Hayward se National Agent, Hayward se-cured a place on the shortlist

He did not lose his own nerve, staying in the job until his 65th birthday in 1982, but by then he was tired and infuriated by the endless wrangling he was obliged to assistant regional organiser

He retired to his garden in Kent and enjoyed the family life that he had been obliged He leaves a widow, Phyllis, whom he married in 1943, three daughters and 10 grandchildren.

general secretary, it was Reg Underhill who conducted the

massive inquiry into the infil-

tration of the Labour Party by

wing bureaucrats who con-

trolled the party machinery

in the 1950s and 1960s and it

was because of the more open

regime that then followed

that he was partly blamed for

the continual confrontation

between right and left and the internal party warfare. It was certainly the case that the

party's own methods of opera-

tion were neglected during this period, enabling the for-

mation of what the general secretary himself admitted

was "a party within a party". But Labour's problems

went deeper than party management and Hayward proba-bly did better than others

might have managed in diffi-cult circumstances. He had a

cult circumstances. He had a good working relationship with Harold Wilson — who recognised the general secretary's closeness to the heart of the party — and delivered him two general election victories in 1974. When Wilson resigned in 1976, Hayward suggested to a scentical Benn

suggested to a sceptical Benn that "things got too much for him and he's lost his nerve". History suggests that Hay-ward was probably right.

sted to a sceptical Benn

the Militant Tendency. Hayward had always op-posed the aggressive right-

March 26, 1940: Had to leave to so to Sadler's Wells with I

Rowena. During the interval p we had cocoa and Welsh rare-bit at the Angel Cafe, while

### Ireland's acute observer

land. As a short-story writer she will be remembered with she will be remembered with
O'Flaherty, O'Faolain and
O'Connor, though her voice
was entirely her own. Another renowned practitioner
O'Connor second half of the 20th century of the death of his parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother renowned practitioner second half of the 20th century of the death of his parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother renowned practitioner second half of the 20th century of the death of his parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother renowned practitioner second half of the 20th century of the death of his parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. "I'll always be a cockroach," a peasant priest cries miserother the parents' marriage. of the art - Elizabeth Bowen | tury. In much of what she - described the modern storyteller's task as revealing the hidden significance of "the small event", and in

Lord Dunsany, writing when she was unknown, drew attention to "stories of quite ordinary lives, stories of people who many might suppose have no story to tell in their experience; and when she tells these stories there may be some whose ears, attuned to the modern thriller, may suppose they are not stories at ali." She harvested details, Dunsany went on, especially when they didn't appear to matter. All that seemed "tiny and unimportant" was grist to her mill: she was already cultivating a genius for bea-dily seeking out what the less observant left behind.

By now, nearly 50 years on, has been demonstrated that stories which at first stories at all" are among the that time, Lavin was at the forefront of establishing a place for them, and of ensur-ing that what began with

ARY LAVIN, who Ireland — always a fruitful wife newly received into the has died aged 83, breeding ground for short was born in Massastory writers — individual and worries obsessively about the soul of her lost

wrote there is a faint echo of the oral tradition, cunningly utilised

Lavin's stories eschew selfness which is the hane of the out making a palaver about it, beautifully told, no pat endings, no slickness; and as in life, nothing is resolved. A



with O'Flaherty, O'Faolain and O'Connor, though ber voice was entirely her own

sir? Well bless you, yes please.

talked about, as novels are child. A boy, growing up, is elsewhere.

and gentleness that mingle so often in the Irish charac-ter is repeatedly, acutely, A sense of sorrow often lingers, as does the whiff of mystery. And such shadows form. They are subtle with- are never just there by chance; take any aspect of a Mary Lavin story and you'll flud it contributes to the me-

chanics of the whole.

What Alan Ross called the shapeless impressionisi the post-Denton Welch period, in which china brica-brac and a young man's relationship with his mother appeared controlling forces," passed Lavin by. Yet that nated the mainstream short ing years: fortunately she may have simply been un-

Fortunately, too, she remained untouched by the short story as so excessive a literary product that it required special powers of appreciation. The isolation experienced in a small offshore island, especially per-haps during the last war when she was beginning to write, may have been a bless-

William Trever Mary Lavin (Mary MscDonald ing in disguise. Like the best storytellers. Scott), author, born June 12, 1912; died March 24, 1996

Lavin ploughed a solitary furrow. In her story The Shrine, an old priest honours a possible vision of the Vir-gin by commissioning a statue, knowing as he does so that this grotto will bring

### Details in a diverse life

who has died aged 81, was sitting in the corner of the François, and André Gide ar-guing about the merits of Alfred de Musset. Each quoted abundantly from memory, but Claude was silent. He did not know the poetry of Musset by heart. "He's a barbarian." his father said. François Mauriac also wrote a journal, Bloc-Notes, in which his son occasionally appears: "Claude carried my two suitcases, I took Claude to Notre Dame to show him where Claudel was

Thus Claude is a shadowy figure. But he made his own mark on French literature. Firstly as a novelist of the nouveau roman, who won the Prix Médicis in 1959. Whereas François had told stories and invented real people, Claude redefined the territory of fiction and sought to communi-cate the contents of individual consciousness rather than in-vent plots. And secondly as a memolrist publishing his jourmal in 13 volumes (with a 14th

in the press).

But he did not follow the normal process of the journal. Although each entry is dated, they do not follow each other chronologically. Consecutive pages cover a conversation with Malraux in a restaurant, August 29, 1975; a conversa-tion with him, January 17, 1952; and the souvenir of a family party, July 29, 1935. Sometimes there is a quota-



Claude Mauriac . . . journals

come and see us in the

kitchen." Clara Mauriac says. Her husband replies: "Now it "Thave brought together the present of other days," Mauriac said. "For me, the present consists of both." It was no accident that the title other days." dent that like other noveaux romanciers Mauriac was also a devotee of the cinema, where representation is everything. For many years he was the film critic of Le Figaro.

He was the second son of François Mauriac. Claude's first important position was as General de Gaulle's private secretary, from 1944 to 1949, He published a book portraying the de Gaulle who wished to meet with famous writers and talk about the Academy, and yet at the same time was family party, July 29, 1935.
Sometimes there is a quotation from an old family document. For example, one of 1873, which tells of the death of a local cowherd. "He used to ous series of figures who as-

position in Claude's life. They included Mitterrand and the younger Michel Valery once said that he

could never write a novel that began: "The Marquise went out at five o'clock." In a gesshe has ordered — "tomate" is Pernod with grenadine. He recollects, at Nimes, in the Café des Sports, you never asked the garçon to wipe your table with his "serviette". You asked for "un petit coup de cachemir".

Both the novels and the journals amass detail. Mal-raux does not think that in the 1940s the English would have stooped so low as to install listening devices in de Gaulle's rooms in London, but reflects that nowadays a single pearl in a woman's necklace can contain such an

peared to count the years.

Douglas Johnson Claude Mauriec, writer, born

only be using those free

drinks vouchers at the after-

show party in an effort to

you. Well, if you insist, just

one more pint . . . From the cittorial to the inau-

Blah, produced by the com-pany behind the American music magazine Ray Gun, in

gural issue of Blah Blah

April 25, 1914; died, March 22,

Birthdays

Alan Arkin, actor. 62; Gra-ham Barlow, crickster, 46; a Pierre Boulez, conductor and ture of defiance Claude both composer, 71; James Caan, began and titled a novel with actor, 57; Carole Carr, singer, these words in 1961. The world 68; Kyung wha Chung, conis that of the Carrefour de Cert violinist, 48; Piers GardBuci, in the Latin Quarter of 
Paris. The content is that of 
observing, remembering, 
reflecting. The garçon in the 
Café de Buci offers a correction: she wants "un just de 
tion: she wants "un just de 
tiones a correction: Serving and Comparative Law, 42; Lord Graham of 
Edmonton, Chief Labour 
Whip, House of Lords, 71; Wiltreater" not "un transitative Law, 42; Lord Graham of 
Edmonton, Chief Labour 
Whip, House of Lords, 71; Wiltreater" not "un just the state of 
Content of the Carrefour de 
cert violinist, 48; Piers Gardner, director, British Institute 
of International and Comparative Law, 42; Lord Graham of 
Edmonton, Chief Labour 
Whip, House of Lords, 71; Wiltreater "Research" of 
Content of the Carrefour de 
cert violinist, 48; Piers Gardner, director, British Institute 
of International and Comparative Law, 42; Lord Graham of 
Edmonton, Chief Labour 
Whip, House of Lords, 71; Wiltreater "Research" of 
Content of 
C Whip, House of Lords, 71; William Hague, MP, Secretary of State for Wales, 35; Jean Graham Hall, former circuit in judge, 79; Lord Hooson QC, in crown court recorder, 71; Elizabeth Jane Howard, novelist, 73; Sir George Jef-ferson, former chairman, British Telecom, 75; Erica

Claude Mauriac notes that people are like children. They compare their ages and they count the months that sepa-rate them. But he never ap-

In Memoriam

wiry int

#To place your enpouncement tel-0171 713 4567. Fax 0171 713 4129.

Jong, writer, 54; Prof Sir

omist, 94; James Moody, sax-ophonist, 71; Leonard Ni-

Bernard Katz, biophysicist, 85; Sir Leslie Melville, econ-

moy, actor, 65; Terry Pryce, ....

tor and composer, 80; Diana ...

Ross, singer and actress, 52; Colin Webb, former editor-

Charles Wheeler, broad-

chairman, Solway Foods, 62; Harry Rabinowitz, conduc-

#### Jackdaw



#### Basquiat rock

THIS IS NOT Black Art. I maintain, and this is not and I like it, yeab, yeah, yeah. This STUFF rocks, A twoheaded Janus of an approach vomiting and questioning at the same time. A squash of Schwitters sound and nonsense, leering tabulations of pre-Socratic philosophers' jostle, or rubber 'gainst Penk. Like a baad reading of Lautremont's "Beautiful as a chance encounter of a sewing machine and an umbrella on a dissecting table". But nothing surreal here. The dreaming is force-fed into the dawn of our

Chance juxtaposition. Your chance is not the same as my tion. Basquiat takes a cursive swipe and re-establishes the disorder that is reality. The pure joyful chaotic miasma it all. Goo-goo-ga-joo. Refract-ing fact fractions facting re-fact. He's milking the dictiondairy, wiping up the puddles of Anglo detritus and scoffing the lot. He's stealing us limb by word . . . After Warhol's death in 1966, Jean-Michel himself started to die bit by bit. This ugly and tragic coda will probably be the Hendrix-Cobain factor that will speed his reputation into the beyond. The Temple of Guys who died for their art. It's a drag. Rubber-necking at the crash-site shall take place. The more STUFF that goes up on the wall, the less it will be seen. Eyes searching for drug clues how black was he. how white inside, can you see him being sad or happy? Look for a

long time and we'll see him

tinually dividing cell of our

wave ... His STUFF is the con

future-past. Embryos with all

the cross-referenced features

in place. But the stash was should like to have seen it all

David Bowle dabbles in hyperprose for his appreciation of the artist Jean-Michel Basquiat in the magazine Modern

#### Clarke checked

AS A READER of Prospect since its inception. I have been amused by Jeremy Clarke's regular contributions. But in the latest issue I feel he has gone too far. To use his column to unburden some of the guilt he must feel about episodes from his past life is one thing; but to abuse his position as a man of letters to preen and gloat over his imminent fortune — derived as it presumably will be from an autobiography filled to the gunwhales with even shabbler accounts - is quite

I speak as an authority on Clarke, having first encoun-tered him when, as five-yearolds, we both attended Mrs Aspin's class at South Benfleet County primary school.

called that, has continued ever since. Recently, howsour turn. Far from being the diffident cove that his writings would have the reader believe, his elevation to the ranks of the wealth-sodden literati has revealed a distasteful side to his character. It is well known to him that I am currently in straitened circumstances. This has done nothing to prevent him from pestering me with abusive telephone calls, informing me of the sordid financial auction for his autobiography. Prefacing his tirades with the quip "How fare the poor this day?" he proceeds to speak of quantities of cash that I can barely comprehen

The sound of my pathetic whimpering only spurs him on. His megalomania is even more apparent during his frequent "state visits". By publishing his ramblings, you are, albeit unknowingly. providing him with yet another stick to prod me with. To ridicule and defame one's leas fortunate acquaintances is

ungentismanly. Please do not queueing behind you in sub-give him continued succour. | zero temperatures, trying to A letter from disgruntled lit victim Steven Heath of Westcliffe-on-Sea, in Prospect.

#### Glug, glug, glug AT BOOT camp, we've been

knuckling down and squar-ing up to bring you the per-fect magazine for the next millennium. You know, the multi-media mushroom cloud, the global village, the starry tech future and all that. Well, the good news is we managed to sort out an e-mail address for those of you who prefer downloading electronic correspondence to writing on pulped-up Norwe-gian pine. Unfortunately, we spent too much time boarding, bingeing and re-running a video of Bjork's imperson-ation of Mike Tyson at Bangkok airport to create a web site on the 'Net. Call us "old skool" (go on) but we'd still rather live in the real world than surf a virtual one. We're your intolerant neighbour upstairs, cranking up Daft Punk's Da Funk at three in

the morning. We're the ones

nova. That's us in the corner. sneaking in through a secret door with an "all areas" lami nate, under the protection of Michael Jackson's minders. Just remember, though, we'll



Blah . . . Blah Blah Blah

get into a Bis gig rammed tighter than a... Okay, you know the story. We're the ones who got sent promos of the Lynch Mob remix of Champagne Superweasel our way backstage and get an exclusive scoop for

#### Church signs Don't let worry kill you ---

essociation with MTV.

Let the church help.

Thursday night — potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.

For those of you who have

children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs. This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church Children will be baptized at both

 Wednesday, the Ladies Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs Jones will sing Put Me in My Little Bed accompanied by the

● Thursday at 5.00pm there will be a meeting of the Little

become little mothers, please see the minister in his study. This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the

Mothers Club. All wishing to

altar.

● Next Sunday, a special collection will be taken to defray the cost of the new carpet. All those wishing to do something on the new carpet will come forward and get a piece of

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind and they may be seen in the church basement Friday. At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will to be What Is Hell? Come early and listen to our choir practice. More e-mailings, this time Ac-

tual Announcements From Church Bulletins.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; or fax 0171-713 4366; or write to Jackdow, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR SER.

# Finance Guardian

#### **Bulmer pays** £23m to add cider strength

ULMER, Britain's big-gest cider group, yester-day toasted its decision to splash out and add brands white Lightning to its port-folio of top-selling Strong-bow and Scrumpy Jack.

John Rudgard, Bulmer's chief executive (right) and finance director, Alan Flockhart, said the company was paying £23.3 million to buy Inch's, the privately-owned, Devon-based cider company, thought to be the country's third biggest cider producer with 7 per cent of the market.

Mr Rudgard said the deal would increase the company's presence in the mar-ket's fast-growing cash and carry and take home sec-

White Lightning will also mesence in add to Bulmer's presence in "white cider", the fastest growing segment of the market. Inch's sold eight million gallons of cider in the year to last September, generating £25.6 million of turnover and £800,000 of profits.



## Labour strains over training

Richard Thomas and Larry Willott

ENIOR Labour fig ures last night at tacked the party's decision to back away from a compulsory training levy on business, claiming that new plans for tax breaks for individuals seeking to reskill were a poor

cised internally for diluting what is seen as a key plank of abour's economic policy.

"It's all very thin," said one Labour critic. "Training is supposed to be one of our flag-ship policies. But this doesn't add up to much."

Shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown said yesterday that he wanted "nothing less than a transformation of skills training in Britain" in order to The Opposition's new blue-print for training, to be un-velled on Thursday, is based on the establishment of vol-untary Individual Learning party figures said this would

Accounts and is being criti- | do little or nothing to boost | the Shadow Chancellor's ini- | funds from within the exist- | for example to cover MBAs.

workforce skills.
The party's plans for ILAs are also under fire from its own MPs, because they fail to spell out the amount which is either by government or indi-

Although there will be senctions against firms which fail to reach certain skills standards - such as the Investors in People Initiative benchmark — these have been attacked internally for being too weak. Experts also expressed

tiative. Lorraine Deardon, at the Institute for Piscal Studfunded vocational courses below post-graduate level had been free of tax since 1992. "It is difficult to see what is

new here," she said. Ms Deardon also said more details would be needed before assessing any expenditure implications. Private spending on training is currently esti-mated to be around £8 billion

An aide to Mr Brown said

ing training budget, and that the intention was to expand Of course, employers have a responsibility to train em-ployees, but individuals do too — and the Government certainly does. We support

different types of course.
The architects of the new policy were last night defend-ing the plans. One insider said the framework would deliver the same benefits, in real terms, as the former proposals for a mandatory levy — around £300 million in

today's money.
The Confederation of British Industry welcomed the proposals. A spokeswoman said: "We would certainly like to see the relief extended

### Halifax is making a Clerical error



Edited by Alex Brummer

ESPITE all the specula-tion to the contrary, it is the Halifax which has emerged from the crowd to secure an agreed deal to take control on the Clerical Medi-cal. More than 40 different financial institutions expres-sed an interest in Clerical since it effectively put itself on the market in May 1995, when it asked merchant bankers Schroders to look at its options. The choice of the Halifax as the favoured buyer is something of a surprise in that so much attention has been focused on NatWest, which already has joint inter-est with Clerical Medical in NatWest Life — a deal which will no doubt be unpicked in

fue course. Certainly, this looks like a good deal for Clerical Medi-cal Although the Halifax will secome a public company within the next year, for the moment it is a mutual sharing the same management culture as the Clerical By all accounts, its bid was among the most generous, offering Clerical policyholders, the real owners of the business, the immediate benefit of £111 million in special bonuses plus a further £180 million increase in ultimate. lion increase in ultimate value. Clerical Medical, which has been in search of new capital so it can sustain the growth of its business has an important new connec-

tion. It can now offer its brands through the Halifax/ Leeds branches as well as the Independent Financial Adviser outlets, which it traditionally has used. But while all this is the best

interests of Clerical Medical, will it he as rewarding for Halifax members? The joint statement from the Halifax and the Clerical says that: "Halifax's market value upon its proposed flotation should upbeat talk, highlighting the benefits to Clerical, that seems to be somewhat un-proven. The history of new 11nancial groups rushing into acquisition is not encouragdemonstrated. And there will be concern that as the likely highest bidder, the Halifax may have paid too much. There could also be some worry that the Halifax is dumping the recognised leader in the life market Stan-

dard Life, for a lesser player. Halifax/Leeds members, who voted for conversion before this deal, might question whether they would rather have had the extra cash at flotation, rather than the promise of higher future earnings from the Clerical Medical some time in the future. Members are being offered no democratic say in this deal despite all the undertakings of better governance. Bedding down any merger,

ners, can be costly in terms of rationalisation of systems and voluntary redundancy. The costs will be taken up front, falling on the present body of members, and the benefits will be down the road when the road the state of the sta when many smaller mem-bers/shareholders will have cashed in their chips.

#### Beef respite

HE immediate financial market reaction to the Government's decision to tough out the BSE crisis was to rally. The pound which had been under pressure for much of the day picked up momentum, gilt prices moved off their lows al-though the statement came market, already 25 points down However, the ruling by the European Union which has imposed a ban on British exports, together with the commercial judgment of food chains from Whithreads to Wimpy to take British beef off the programment of the commercial purposes the commercial the menu, must change the UK's food economics. Meat prices may be heading down, benefiting the retail price in-dex in the short term, but this will quickly be overshadowed by poultry prices, already 12 per cent up since the weekend with some way to go.

Even with the current minimal government intervention there will be a £800 million hit on the balance of payments and some need by the Government to provide compensation to producers. But there still remains a strong risk that more drastic action, including culling of the hard, will be required, clouding this week's gilt auction and threatening the public finances.

#### Mercury's stroke

ECURICOR is one of Sthose cumpanies which has been considered rather unglamorous. However, following the disclosure that it is modernising its antiquated share structure, Se-

Apart from gaining assur-ance from the Inland Revenue stake in Cellnet (jointly owned with BT) will not at curicor has added clarity to its businesses, making itself a far more appealing potential investment at a stroke.

known, should enjoy a mar-ket capitalisation of over \$2 billion. That makes it a cer-tainty for inclusion in the FTSE-100 during the next reshuffle, and, assuming this week's Orange flotation well, the shares should have further to go as Celinet's

Value becomes clearer.
In the meantime, it is intriguing that Mercury Asset Management — Securicor's biggest shareholder — has al-ready given the proposals its blessing. MAM, which is also second biggest shareholder in Securicor's sister company recently to top up its stake in Securicor. This was a piece of timing which looks almost mystical in its accuracy and Bedding down any merger, has already brought notable however well suited the part- gains for the fund manager.

## inquiry into **Jardine firm**

Dam Atkinson

EGULATORS are investigating a fund manager owned jointly by the Jardine Matheson trading empire and Robert Fleming, the investment bank.

Possible trregularities by employees are thought to include "front running", plac-ing an order for securities ahead of a much larger pur-chase by a client in the hope

Imro, the fund-management supervisor, began the inquiry into Jardine Fleming Asset Management last month, and the Securities and Futures Commission in Hong Kong — where JFAM is incorporated - has been fully informed.

In an unconnected case Jardine Fleming confirmed yesterday that four brokers working for its securities arm in Hong Kong were sacked last Friday for "rat" trading. This practice involves diverting profits from share move ments to brokers' accounts rather than to those of their chients, and is a widespread problem for Hong Kong brok

The Imro inquiry is centred

rector of JFAM's Hong Kong-based parent, Jardine Fleming Holdings, said: "We regard compliance matters as and we are actively co-operate investigation is in progress however, it is not appropriate

to comment further. Front-running is a perennial headache for UK financial regulators, as is the other practice said to be involved in the investigation, postponing the booking of trades either to the broker's or the client's ac-count until the performance of each trade is known. Such a practice means elient accounts are credited

with "dud" trades, leaving brokers with the profitable JFAM, the Hong Kong broking arm and an investment banking subsidiary make up the three operating sections of Jardine Fleming JFAM

has 10 institutional clients in Europe. It is not known which clients' orders are associated with the allegations of front-running. JFAM is incorporat-

## Poultry prices up 12pc

sidering importing more beef,

while Tesco announced it was changing the labelling of its

domestically-produced meat

sales had been compensated

KipperWilliams

from foreign produce. Tesco said the fall in beef

Dairy group shares feel knock-on effect of lamb, pork, poultry and fish.

So far, stockbroking anaswitch from beef — but others benefit.

Lisa Buckingham and Ian King report

up by 12 per cent over the weekend and is exmuch again as the BSE scare

The poultry industry, which held an emergency meeting in London vesterday to discuss its ability to absorb extra consumer demand, is expected to limit price in-creases to stave off accusations of profiteering which might lead to a flood of

imports. Neil Harrison, finance director of one of Britain's biggest poultry groups, Bernard Matthews, whose shares rose 6p to 122p, said the Norfolk-based company had not increased production. "We will consider the Government's situation," he added.

The meeting came as large UK food and dairy companies saw their share prices hit by mass selling amid worries of a slump in beef sales.

Dairy groups such as Uni-gate, down 30p to 407p, and Northern Foods, which shed 16p to 183p, came under par-ticular pressure on fears that they might have to import milk to maintain doorstep and high street deliveries. Michael Landymore, ana-

lyst at Henderson Crosthwaite, said he would not be surprised if the BSE scare

lysts say, there has been little impact on beef-related products such as ready-cooked laagne and canneloni, a drop in the sales of which could hit the share prices of super-markets and retailers such as products such as yoghurt. All the large supermarket

groups are understood to have recorded beavy falls in Marks & Spencer. Last night Burger King beef sales at the weekend —
put at between 30 and 50 per
cent by industry observers —
and most were reimbursing
customers who bought meat which sells 1.3 billion beef-hurgers a year worldwide — joined rivals Wimpy and Mc-Donald's in declaring it would no longer buy British beef. Burger King's managing director, Craig Bushey, said:
"Our customers' lack of confibefore the disclosures of a risk to human health. Sainsbury said it was con

dence in British beef and the related potential damage to our business and threat to our employees' livelihood has caused us to take the decision to source beef outside the UK until confidence in British beaf is fully restored.

One beneficiary of the BSE scare has been Electrophoretics, a diagnostics company. It contract with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to identify protein markers used for the diagnosis of BSE in live cattle. A spokesman for the com-

pany, whose shares have risen in value by more than 40 per cent during the past week, said: "We are continuing our work, but there is no when results will become nyailabie

"We will be able to make an announcement when MAFF

# Fair Trading

tors planning to enter the do-mestic gas business when the market is opened to competi-tion in a pilot area covering Devon, Cornwall and Somerse

County Council's director of trading standards and conumer protection, said the authorities had received 152 complaints from consumers in the region, covering areas such as high pressure selling techniques and failure to give notice of cancellation rights. He said his department's report had been sent to the Di-rector General of Fair Trading, with a copy to the Direc-

Swebgas, which abandoned unsolicited door-to-door sales

2.7 per cent from April

#### Love is . . . working for a hated utility, say bosses

Martyn Haisall, Northern trial Correspondent

EXECUTIVES aiming for some ego-inflating adorawould do well to steer their careers in the direction of some of Britain's most hated companies such as the priva-tised utilities, according to a "love in the workplace" sur-vey published today. Those stoically prepared for decades of employee loathing will battle on in the retail or travel and transport industries, a self-assessment survey of bosses in 290 companies, employing more than 250,000 people, discovered. Overall, bosses in the utili-

ties and government departments felt most loved, with 89 per cent perceiving they were "liked" and 77 per cent "adored". The survey admit- | tion with greater seniority.

tedly did not cover the views In retail, and travel and transport only 37 and 51 per cent repectively felt "loved". The balance felt some staff nursed dislike or hatred.

at a loss to suggest why the most loved bosses worked for to grade their employees' devotion from "hatred" to "adowere set against measures of practical affection like morning greetings, sympathy for personal problems and "looking cheerful when the boss entered the room".

The survey by the Link up Group found bosses felt "miserable and unloved" at work. coyly admitting to being experiencing increasing isola-

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS Australia 1.92

France 7.47 Germany 2.1950 Greece 363.00 Hong Kong 11.63 India 53.02 Cyprus 0 70

Italy 2,340 Malla 11,545 Netherlands 2,465 New Zealand 2,19 Norway 9.58

Spain 183.50 Sweden 10.00

se life

on London. Neither the regulator nor Robert Fleming Fleming confirmed that an Imro inquiry was under way. Matheson's pre-tax profits.

ed in Hong Kong but regulated in London The association between Fleming and Jardine Mathe-son dates from 1970. In 1995,

Jardine Fleming accounted for 11.3 per cent of Jardine

#### London brokers help set up rival to Telecom Eirann

Paul Murphy

HE Cruise O'Brien family knows a bit about telephones. A particularly colourful patch in the career of father Conor was in the mid-1970s as Ireland's Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, Now setting up the first comprehensive competitor to the state-owned Telecom Eirann. who are floating the venture on the fledgling Alternative Investment Market, have

Ireland has been slow to de-regulate its telephone business. The European Commission has given the country by the summer.

until 2003 to deregulate

Meanwhile, a buyer is being sought for 30 per cent of competitors are picking away at the market. Patrick Cruise O'Brien has

the American telecoms firm AT&T on side. His company is called Stentor - from Greek mythology (Stentor was a herald with a voice equal to that of 50 men). A third of the £3.5 million being raised through the flotation will go straight to the US company to build a new network linking Ireland's cities and

cabling to London. The plan is to have the first customer making the first call

### Imro launches New Securicor eases Cellnet hold-up ket capitalisation of over | shareholder, British Telecom, | distribution businesses. Dur-

ECURICOR paved the Sale of its 40 per cent stake in Cellnet, Britain's second-biggest mobile phone shake-up of its share

Securicor, which has been criticised for its archaic vot-

ing structure, said it was merging its two classes of share to create one new class, which would include unification with the group's siste company, Security Services. The new company emerging from the shake-up, New securicor, will enjoy a mar-

£2 billion — making it a cer-tainty for the FTSE-100 after Accordingly, Securicor shares shot up 200p to 1805p, while shares in Security Services closed up 65p to 1050p. In addition, Securicor said it had won new assurances from the Inland Revenue that any sale of its £1.25 billion stake in Cellnet would not leave it liable to Capital Gains Tax. The Revenue's comments were seen as smooth-ing the way towards an immi-

But Securicor insisted it had no news on a possible

barred last year from increasing its holding by the Department of Trade & Industry. Chief executive Roger Wiggs said: "Although other parties have expressed interest, no discussions are taking place with BT or any third parties." Securicor's peculiar voting structure is a legacy of the company's origins. It began life in 1923 as Associated Hotels, and bought into the Kensington Palace Hotel in 1959, buying Securicor the following year.
Securicor grew rapidly

under the new management, selling the hotels businesses sale of its Cellnet stake to the in 1973, and reinvesting the stake in the New Securitor mobile phone network's other proceeds in the security and in favour of the proposals.

### Swebgas is shopped to as BSE scare hits home Office of

voluntary ILAs."

Mr Brown insisted his pro-

posals would ameliorate the effects of fears over jobs

"The feel-good factor will

not return as long as there is

a feel insecure factor. People in their fiftles and even for

ties fear that if they lose their

job it could be their last or that the next job will repre-sent a downward slide."

ing this period Associated

Hotels was renamed Securi-

cor and Kensington Palace

Under the existing share

structure, there are 4.15 mil-

lion Securicor shares in cir-

culation, each carrying one vote, along with 77 million "A" shares, which have no

Meanwhile, Securicor's

stake in Security Services has been progressively reduced to

50.75 per cent, as Securicor has issued new shares in the

group to finance other deals. Mercury Asset Management, which will hold a 16 per cent

stake in the New Securicor, is

Hotel Security Services.

oting rights.

Geoffrey Gibbs

WEBGAS, the gas supply Ooffshoot of South Western Electricity, has been reported to the Office of Fair Trading and the gas industry watch-dog. Ofgas, following an in-vestigation by trading standards officers into complaint about its doorstep selling.

The company is one of sever regional electricity distribu at the end of April. Steve Butterworth, Devon

tor General of Gas Supply.

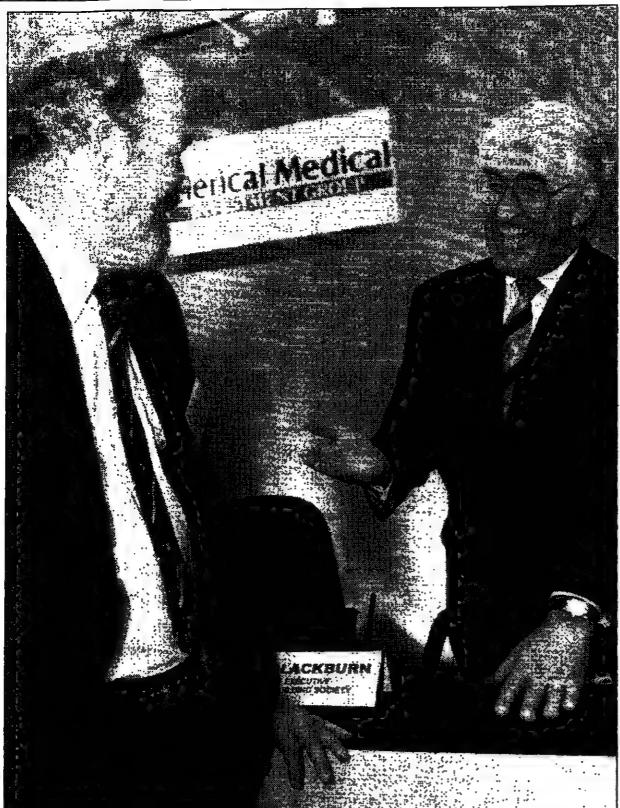
three weeks ago when the scale of the problem became action it had already taken would address any concerns the OFT might have.

 East Midlands Electricity said it would be cutting elec-tricity prices for 2 million domestic customers and for businesses by an average of

Lang supports

share perks for

Walther: 'The best -and clearly preferred - bidder was the Halifax'



SOME 700,000 people holding one million Clerical Medical with-profits salify for special bon ition goes

The vast majority of qualifying policies are 25-year with-profits ents linked to

nsion plan holders who ave some or all of their ment in Chirical will benefit, too, as will

le holders of unit

the cord of the year will get a special bonus added in 1997 al to 6.5 per cent of the

ommos aiready earned. The bigger the policy and he longer it has been in iw 000,003 a no alc roffits policy which has seen in force for 15 years 200,002 am a \$10,000

policy in force for 10 years. Qualifying policyholders will also benefit over the ng term from £160 mill the Hallfax is putting into the coolite fund to

Who gets what . . .

Chris Barrio

ages and 10-year

about 100,000 holders of unit-linked endowments

policytholder information ine is on 0800-100555.

# Clerical goes to Halifax

Now the spotlight is turned on NatWest, also shopping for a life assurer, reports Pauline Springett while Jill Papworth

HE shake-up in the UK life and pensions industry was given fresh impetus of the bank declined to comterday when the | ment. "We have been linked it had agreed to buy life as-surer Clerical Medical for casion our policy is not to

Life style . . . Clerical Medical boss Robert

Walther (left) seals the deal with Halifax chief executive Michael Blackburn

collim 0099 The move immediately fothwarted in its bid to pur-chase Clerical Medical by the a further acquisition. higher price offered by

looks at who gains from yesterday's deal

comment on any of them." he Last month NatWest agreed Westminster Bank which is to buy fund manager Gartbelieved to have been more for £472 million and it is

It is cash rich thanks to the fallfax. \$2.2 billion raised recently by the area in which Halifax. City sources suggest that the sale of its US-based retail has a noticeable gap. It will

banking chain Bancorp. The also give Clerical Medical fi-purchase of a life company mancial security by underpin-analysts have also suggested the bank could resort to a

share buy-back.
The Clerical Medical/Halifax link-up should be com-pleted by the year end. But it must first be approved by 75 per cent of Clerical Medical members who vote at an extraordinary general meeting in June, as well as by the

The £800 million purchase price will be paid in cash. Most of this will be added to Clerical Medical's with-profit lected as shareholders capital The deal will allow Halifax access to Clerical Medical's independent financial advisory network - the distribu-

Robert Walther, chief executive of Clerical Medical, said the group had started to review its future in May last year. It had concluded that it would be unable to meet the expected sales boom in the life industry unless it had access to more capital. He it would probably have been forced eventually to cease tak-

ing on new business. By moving early we have found the best parent with the Halifax," he said. Mr Walther said Clerical Medical had evaluated 40 possible buyers and had held detailed negotations with a few. "The best and clearly the preferred was the Halifax."

around three rival bidders a foreign group, a composite insurer and a life company. The unsuccessful bids are the region of £800 million to

Halifax had offered more

money than its rivals but he also pointed out that the deal

was attractive because it con-

tained little overlap between

the two businesses.
Clerical Medical said its

7.5 per cent stake in NatWest

Life — a relationship which is

due to expire in 1998 anyway — would be unaffected by the Halifax deal.

Apart from NatWest there

Analysts are expecting a flurry of takeovers in the life industry. Scottish Amicable, Norwich Union, Friends Provident and Scottish Wid-

targets, with Abbey National, Woolwich, National Westminster and Prudential among the predators

Last year Halifax Building Society merged with Leeds Permanent Building Society. Halifax said the Clerical Medical purchase should enhance its earnings and market value when it goes for a flotation

• The Principality Building Wales, yesterday announced a cut in its standard variable nortgage interest rate from 7.49 per cent to 6.99 per cent on 1 April for new and exisit-

ing borrowers.
The society, which is plan-

MacGregor, assistant secre-tary of Bifu.

ning to maintain its savings rates, said the move was de signed to emphasize its desire to remain a mutual

IONICA has been forced to postpone today's launch of its challenge to BT's virtual monopoly of local phone networks with an impovative radio telephone service. The Cambridge company insisted that its digital technology was working properly, but said a meeting of the main operating divisions yesterday decided that

substantial reductions in phone charges over the next five

#### S1bn BCCl cash 'in US'

loitte & Touche, is asking the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Richard Scott,

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#### Thousand more jobs to go at Barclays

day revealed plans to axe another 1,000 jobs—involving 350 managers and 650 clerical workers. The move is in addition to the 500 staff cuts announced by month, writes Pauline

The jobs cuts come amid turmoil in the financial perrices sector which, due to takeovers and new technology, has shed 120,000 jobs in the past six years, 85,000 of them in banking.

union warned that 10,000 more could go by the end of the decade.
"These are the people the

bank and customers can ill afford to lose. We're talking of some of the most experienced managers and clerical staff left in Barclays. It's only the begin-ning of a whole new wave

Unifi said the cuts had 'shocked and devastated' the bank's workforce, while the remaining staff were working excessive hours.

A Barclays spokeswoman said the bank had shed stressed that it was also creating jobs in new areas, such as telephone banking. She said the jobs would go via a voluntary early leav-

## Inchcape is sharpening focus — and axe

### OUTLOOK/ Distributor's dilemma will cost 2,000 jobs. Roger Cowe reports

NCHCAPE planned to focus on fewer, bigger businesses and to cut costs. That was in 1984. Yesterday, as profitsall but disappeared under the weight of the latest restructuring charges, new chief ex-ecutive Philip Cushing prom-ised more of the same — focus and cost-cutting, that is, not failing profits.

Mr Cushing has been group

managing director for the past year. He took over yes-terday from Charles Mackay, who has briefly been elevated to the post of deputy chair-man before leaving at the end of June. Mr Mackay has paid the price of three years' fallarnings and is part of the cost-cutting, although no doubt there will be a hefty price in ending his two-year,

£380,000 a year contract. The new chairman, British Airways' Sir Colin Marshall, said: "There was a top-heavy position at senior manage ment level and I have reached agreement with Mr Mackay step down as chief execu-

ably with less substantial compensation. Their misfortune arises in

part from a specific, short-term problem in Inchcape's main business — car distribution — but a long-term difficulty also bedevils the group. That is its history as a collection of family interests with trading activities across Asia.

The latest bit of focusing announced yesterday, was the intended disposal of the bulk of the services division. The insurance broker Bain Clarkson will be either floated on the stock market, or sold if a buyer can be found who will offer enough money. The testing services operation has also been put up for sale. Shipping will be the only remaining service area, and while Mr Cushing was at pains to stress its links with

other group activities, that retention may have more to do with a lack of options. insurance and testing were the only businesses to in- elsewhere in the world. The

group seeks to "realign its | family silver. But Mr Cushing | since the only way to sell cars cost base", although presum- is confident that he can was to give away money. is confident that he can reverse the profit decline elsewhere, especially in the motor division.

This accounted for more than \$4 billion of sales and al-most half of the profits even after a precipitous decline last year.

It incorporates retailing, through franchises such as Mann Egerton in the UK, and international distribution and has grown sharply with the advance of Japanese manufacturers into Europe. Inch cape is particularly closely aligned with Toyota. It has been the carmaker's UK distributor for almost 30 years, with the current agreement running until 2008.

HEREIN lies the problem. Japanese manufacturers have suffered as the strong yen has hit their competitiveness. Last year Inchcape's sales of Japanese cars were down by 8 per cent in Europe and 17 per cent More than 2,000 others will crease profits last year, so struggle to maintain market may not offset also pay the price as the this may smack of selling the share hit profit margins, agency status.

was to give away money. Now Mr Cushing has four-point plan for profit recovery: weed out poor fran-chises, improve the network's efficiency, shorten the supply chain and sell financial ser vices to car buyers.

just in Europe. Hong Kong car sales plummeted by a third last year, for example. There is no knowing what impact the Chinese takeover of Hong Kong will have, but it is reasonable to assume that Japanese manufacturers will be able to bounce back, through new products and production in low cost countries, such as the UK.

But the problems are not

In the long term, however, Inchcape remains vulnerable because of its position as an intermediary, whether in importing cars or office equipment or bottling Coke. Dis-tributors are always at the mercy of brand owners.

Inchcape's position strad-dling the east-west divide is a tremendous advantage, but may not offset the handicap of

# nuclear chiefs

HE Government is prepared to back a share option package for nuclear industry executives and senior managers as part of its plans to privatise the indushy this summer.

Speaking yesterday at the official opening of the industry's newest station, the pressurised water reactor Sizewell B in Suffolk, the Trade and Industry Secre-tary, Ian Lang, said that he supported the use of share op-tions as a means of widening share ownership.

Mr Lang's defence of executive perks comes as MPs pre-pare to debate nuclear privatisation today.

His remarks follow the stance taken three weeks ago when John Robb, chairman of British Energy, publicly backed executive share options as a way of motivating staff, despite controversy over "fat cat" salaries in the privatised regional electricity and water companies.

British Energy was the name given to the company formed to take the newer

placards ("The Meek Shall ha herit the Nuclear Waste") at he Suffolk station to declare t officially open eight years after construction started. Seeking to reassure inves-

tors about the safety of nu-clear power in private hands, Mr Lang promised that regu-latory bodies were close to finishing their scrutiny of the new management structure established ahead of privatisation. He said "all the necessary

licences and consents are expected to be in place for the vesting of the new companies vesting of the new companies in less than a week's time". Negotiations were confinu-ing over the capital structure of British Energy. With BE's vesting day due in five days, the industry sec-

retary said he was confident that talks would be concluded despite the tight timetable. A trade sale was still an option. The segregated fund to fi-

nance the costs of decommissioning BE's atomic stations, seven advanced gas-cooled reactors and the PWR at Sizewell, will receive a dowry of £230 million from the com pany and annual contribu-tions of £16 million for the

reactors into the private sector in July.

Accompanied by the Environment Secretary, John Gummer, Mr Lang braved continuous to be pegged at the private sector in July.

By contrast, analysts at EZW, which is advising the Government, had estimated contributions to be pegged at the private sector in July.

#### News in brief

### **Budgie hovers** towards the stage

SLEEPY Kids, the cartoon character licensing group, is bringing Budgie the helicopter, to the stage. The character created by the Duchess of York will make its theatre debut in York next month in Budgie's Magic Adventure. The play has been li-censed to Funtime Productions, which has bookings at more

Keeping up its royal links. Sleepy Kids is preparing to launch a range of leisure wear for the Prince's Trust. Chairman Martin Powell told shareholders at the group's annual meeting that trading was progressing well. —  $lan\ King$ 

#### Hodder profits tumble

HODDER Headline, which assaulted the Net Book Agreement by esterday reported a \$2.5 million drop in profits to \$5.7 million. The publisher, which gave advance warning of poor results for 1995, said there were encouraging signs since the collapse of the agreement. Like-for-like sales in January and February were 12 per cent higher. Shares rose 13p to 238p. — Lisa Buckingham

#### More look at houses

HOPES of a housing market recovery were expressed by the House Builders' Federation yesterday. An independent survey of 387 house builders found that 44 per cent had more visitors to ielt sites läst month

more reservations. But Tay Homes said 1985 was the worst in the trade for 30 years \$2.05 million to £250,000. Travis Perkins, the building materials group, saw profits case 6 per cent to £36.5 million in 1996, but hopes for improved trading conditions this year. — Tony May

#### lonica launch stalled

a few more weeks" of preparation was needed.

Chief executive Nigel Playford denied the delay had been sparked by last week's call by Oftel, industry regulator, for

Liquidators of Bank of Credit and Commerce International believe they may be able to recover up to another \$1 billion (£657.9 million) in the United States to belp repay creditors, a London court heard yesterday. Michael Crystal, counsel for De-

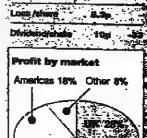
to reject the claims of four sets of creditors to priority.

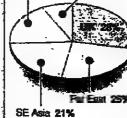
Mr Crystal said the liquidator had so far recovered \$344 million in the US, part of which will be put towards increasing the pool from which creditors will be paid a dividend, presently 20 per cent

### Inchcape

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Henry Cecil . . . a champion Shelkh Mohammed . . . "loyal"

Racing's World Cup takes place in Dubai tomorrow. Chris Hawkins hears the thoughts of the man behind the \$4m race in the desert

## Sheikh on a dream carpet ride

that there is nothing second-rate about Sheikh Mohammed, one of the world's richest men and in the realms of horse racing certainly one of the most

, But he is human, and yes-terday, as he sat cross-legged en the richly red-carpeted floor of what must be the world's most splendid desert tent, he admitted that his brain-child, the Dubai World Cup, which takes place tomorrow, has worried him.

"I was nervous, but not now," he said. "I am happy, I am very proud. The World Cup was a dream plan which

has come off.
"Cigar is here and has the chance to prove himself the real world champion. Each country has its own champion. We hear so and so is the best but never have we got

them together.
"It will be good for the World Cup if Cigar wins, but it will also be good for us if we

GOES without saying pinned on Halling, Tamayaz, at there is nothing Larrocha and Torrential, all horses trained in England last season but wintering in Dubai under the Gulf sum and the Godolphin banner.

He looked on approvingly as all four were paraded at his private Al-Quoz stables yesterday and it is hard to imag-ine thoroughbreds looking in better condition.

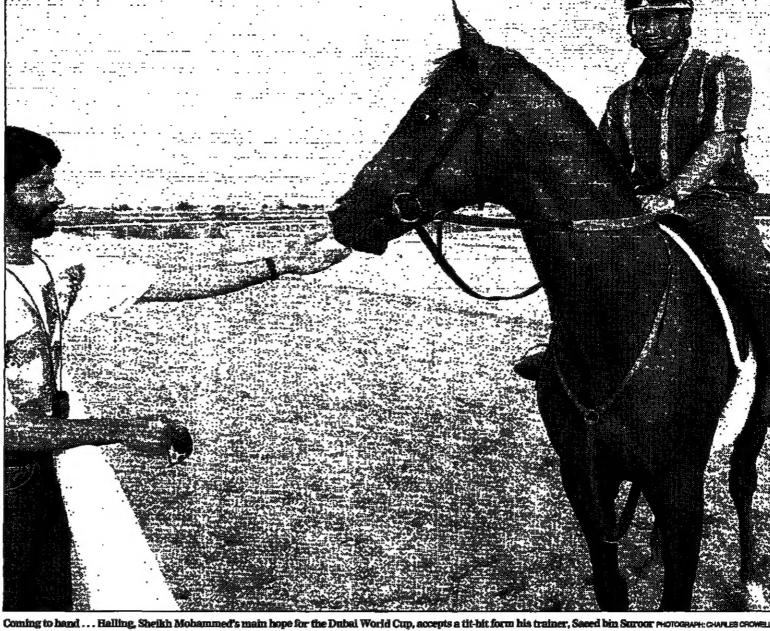
"Halling is in the best shape of his life and we are

very confident he will run much better than in America, where Cigar beat him," said the shelkh.

When Sheikh Mohammed gives an opinion it is not to be taken lightly. He likes giving opinions, does not mind counter-views, but ultimately one suspects, likes to have the

last word. Henry Cecil found that out last season when he was removed from the list of the Sheikh's trainers after a dispute about a two-year-old colt called Mark Of Esteem. Much has been written

about the split, but Sheikh Mohammed seemed to want to be involved



once and for all. "Before I came, Henry Cecil was a great trainer, a champion trainer, and I'm sure he will be again. Perhaps I shall have horses with him one day again.

"But Henry wants to get his own way and I keep taking him on. We fight. It was always there for a long time.
"My problem for him is that I am a horseman, not just an owner. I want to interfere,

and I want the same from and being prepared to take on others. I cannot cope when somebody is letting the whole world know I'm stopping a horse from running when the truth is that horse is lame. When the trust has gone that is the finish."

The incident to which

Sheikh Mohammed is refer-ring was the withdrawal of Mark Of Esteem from the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot

Alhaarth, owned by Moham-med's brother, Sheikh Hamdan, in the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket. "Mark Of Esteem is going

well now. He could be the Sheikh Mohammed said. "When he came he was lame — he has an arthritic spur in a knee. We could have had him operated on like Arazi, but it didn't seem to do him any good. He will go straight for the Guineas."

knew him as much as I did it How the Godolphin horses came over and swept all be-fore them in England and was not fair that he was not voted horse of the year. This year, Godolphin will be sending 40 horses over at the end of April. Time trials will decide which ones come. Europe last season was so upsetting for many English trainers, who will not want such success repeated, and Sheikh Mohammed concedes it is unlikely. "Last year was wonderful but it doesn't happen every year," he said. "Lammtarra was very sick this time lest year I be sold. but there will be more two-year-olds among them this

There are 26 juveniles at Al-Quoz, including Barad, a halfthis time last year. I thought brother to Arazi by Rainbow Quest, and Marazi, a little

### **National** set for a low turn-out

Ken Oliver

ARTIN PIPE has ruled out Milnne-homa from Saturday's Grand National. The 13-year-old, who won the race two years ago, has failed to recapture his form this season and will be aimed at the Scottish National at Ayr on April 20. Only 32 horses stood their ground at yesterday's acceptance stage, which means the race is guaranteed to have its smallest field since 1980 when 30

runners went to post.
Support for Superior Finish continues. Richard Dunwoody's mount was cut to 9-1 from 12-1 by William Hill, who have eased mar-ket leader Rough Quest by

half a point to 9-2. Deep Bramble, fourth in at 10-1, continues to please in his build up to the big race. Paul Nicholls, the gelding's trainer, said yes-terday. "He went very well in a spin this morning when he was partnered by Tony McCoy.

"You can never be confident about such a race, but I am confident I have got him as well as I can get him. If he gets luck on the day, I'm very hopeful he'll run a real big race. I'd say

the ground is going to be on the soft side of good, which would be perfect."

Jason Titley, who won the race last year on Royal Athlete, will ride Bayard Dieu, while Dean Gallagher misses the ride on Into The Red after breaking a collarbone at Fontwell yesterday.

The 32 acceptors are:

#### Newcastle with form guide

4,40 Mue Mon

Draw: He adventage. Going: Good to sell. Figures in brackets stips herse's misse de 2.30 HOLYSTONE HARDER STAKES IN CO.469 100/123- **SHERIAZ (2003)** N Tinkin 4-9-12 123- YEAST (185) N Haggas 4-9-12

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n, gonar, her out und linal fundong, bin neck by Draemboet (Redaur 71, good) alienaed Urreb aut, no extre heel furiong, 3rd of 12, bin 61, to Syrien Queen (J.A HE SECRET: Alverys behind when 11th of 14, bin 171, to Carburton (Haydoch 77, soft). ANNA: Never Cangerous when 4th of 16, bin 77, in Alescow Al Night (Dondallir tin 41, good to Briti ASTOFTHERICUS: Loss place hethery, soon outpaced, 18th of 21, bin 161, to Germano (Doncasta

3.05 KELLINGWORTH SELLING STAKES 370 of CLASS 5- AYE READY (194) Mass L Perrat 9-0 ... 50- DAREROCK (175) M Dods 9-0 ...... CSCGC DIARREDICK (175) M Dods 9-0
CKPSC LUCKY BEA (182) M W Existing 9-0
CKPSC HELLTHAM REPURE (185) M CEMBOR 9-0
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6-THY ASTRO (281) T Expertly 9-0
51120 CHRIMAND BANG (10) (10) J Borry 8-1
CMSC MORS CHOICE (195) G More 8-9
CMSC MORS CHOICE (195) G More 8-9
DOS PRASIS OF THOUSANT (185) J Haldman 8-0
TOLAR RESPRAIN (184) Mrs J Ramsden 8-8
RANTING CONTINUE C THOUSANT 6-8

Bottley 5-2 Miletrian Referb. 4-1 Polar Retrain, 5-1 Chebang Beng, 5-1 Reste, 16-1 Tay Astro, 13-1 Notice Charce.

FORM GUIDE: - ALL TRIAM FORM 1950-WAY ARREST, LEFT, OH, SET OF 16, OH 34, IS SEPPARED WHICH (CERTERS I), DOOD TO VITH.

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TREY ASTRON SIGNLY WASY, headowy halfway, soon besters, last of 6, bit 61, bit 7ropical Search (Edinburgh Size). 3.35 EARSDON RANDICAP 2m 1974 CELE18

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WHITE WILLOW Close up mird after 5 when noter broke from and was engaged rider at race won by
Purple Splash Heydrob, he of good;
BRECOTY Lot no out and insace that forlong, byt 32 by Admonitor (Southwell 1m 31 a.m.)
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52000- BROADSTAINS BEAUTY (137) (D) 5 Bowing 6-9-2
52200- STOLIN HESS (171) (D) Mr Easterly 4-9-1
5300-1 SHADOW JERY (269 (P) (67) D Chepman 6-9-0
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52010- SPRING (174) (D) 5 Kombeng 7-8-8
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003009- SPARMIN STEPS (346) L LINGO 5-6-13 

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Milliane (7) 15 SALINOM SPIEMEZ (13) N Headers on 5-11-4
31 SOUMES LIKE FUN (60) Mes H Keept 5-1-4
31 SOUMES LIKE FUN (60) Mes H Keept 5-1-4
6 BUACHORE (13) Mr P Sty 5-11-4
6 DUKEHORE (13) Mr P Sty 5-11-4
6 COME DESIMESS (20) Loby Herries 5-11-4
6-03 GOVERNOR DANIEL (13) J O'Sten 5-11-4 G GROSTERIOR (200) F Murphy 5-11-4
LAMITHUM COLD Mrs. Primes 5-11-4
MOOR DARICE MAIN IL Littingdon 6-11-4
G ORCHARD KING (130) B Frontin 6-11-4
COO ROWDY YATES (4) E Rotherd 8-11-4
S-20 SEVERDALE LAD (145) K Hogg 5-11-4
SEVERDALE LAD (145) SPRING GALE S Sterrood 5-17-1

ALBRIET CHARGE (223) N Small 6-10-15

SHADARI REUCK (223) N Twistop-Davies 5-10-15

HARRELLO Mrs M Receipy 5-10-13

POLLYAMIA (21) M Maggerisp 5-10-18

QUEEN LINE I Cestle 5-10-13

RACELINE NEW CASTLE 101 201 SANDOWN 102 202 HUNT'DON 103 203 AND REALIST SERVICE HOOMAGENE IN EMECON

Results

FOLKESTONE

FOLKESTONE

1.50 (97): 1, JEMBELLE, JOHNN (5-2 tav),
2, Swift Refusel (11-4): 3, Cardar And
Candy (25-1): 9 ran. 6, 1, 15 Dwyor Tolac
C2-40; 61 10, 61-40; 54 0 Dual F: 05-70; CSF:
EE-71. Trio C107-90. NR: Mujadii Express,
Sylvania Lights. 59 in pound deduction.
2.20 (65): 1, LLOC, J Stack (10-1): 2,
Mailles Man (10-1): 2, Bonney Melecty
(33-1): 4, Sondaries (13-2): 9-2 fav That
Morning, 15 ran. 5, 2 (C Dwyor) Tolac C14-90;
E1-70 E2-90, 28-50, 71-30. Dual F: E80-70,
CSF: 129 17. Tricate: E2-953-75.
2.50 (66): 1, BELDRAY PAREL, J Children

[25-1]; 2, Bleened Spirit (5-1), 3, Pride of Switchen (73-8 isre). 14 ran. 5, 13, (Mrs A King) Tota: 195, 10, 111 40, 12.30, 11.20 Dust F (189 90, 187; 1.198, 188). The Size of F (189 90, 187; 1.198, 188). The Size of F (189 90, 187; 1.198, 188). The Size of F (189 90, 187; 1.198). The Size of F (189 90, 187; 1.198).

18:50, 12:40, Duaj P. (18:30, CSF; SE282, Trio. (13):50, 2.40; 1., JURASSIC CLASSIC, J Ostorne (8-1); 2, Audros Prisce (8-16); 3, Koaches (8-16); 2, Audros Prisce (8-16); 3, Koaches (8-16); 2, Toir Caron, 4.10; 1., SPRING BRASS, T Descombe (4-1); 2, General Peopo (13-8); 3, Coel Burner (11-8 int); 8 ran. 25. 4, (8 Ryan) Toto: CS 60; 22.10; 1. 30, 0.11; 0. Descombe (13-8); 3, Coel Burner (11-8 int); 8 ran. 25. 4, (8 Ryan) CSF; (10 8), Trio E2 20. NF One More Man. 2.60; 1, CHURCHTOWN PONT, M A Figural (4-1); 2, 4-18. Stars Player (10-1); 3, 2, cornid (6-1); 2, Stars Player (10-1); 3.

Tan. 4, 1K. (R. Akshursi) Tote: \$2.00; £1.50, 12.40. Dual F: £18.30. CSF: £32.20. This £13.50. T. A. (R. Akshursi) CSF: £32.20. This £13.50. T. A. (R. Akshursi) CSF: £3.50. E. (R. Akshursi) CSF: £3.50. Ashursing CSF: £3.50. E. (R. Akshursi) CSF: £3.50. Ashursing CSF: £3.50. Ashurs HEXHAM

2.00: 1, GENERATOR, L Wyer [11-0]; 2, The Scheher (4-1), 3, Bessenbully (6-2: tee), 17 an. 8 28, (T Easterby) Toke (2.10: £1.70, £1.10, £1.10; Dual F. £8.40, CSF £13.51, Trice (5.40, 2.30: 1, SEEWICTA, P Nicon (10-1); 2,

Trate Sout (7-2): 3. Rascally (14-1): 4. Rasspant Roole (14-1). 16 ran. 3.7. (Mrs. M. Reveley). Total: 19.30. 11.80. (1.80. C4.20. C3.50. Dual F: 118.00. CSF: 250.23. Trichast: 0.97.16. Tric 118.13. (1.80. CSF: 250.23. Trichast: 0.97.16. Tric 118.13. (1.91. A. Darders' Hat. (8-1). 4. Darders'

**Premiership** 

Dodd

Sotor 1, Coventry 0

## Palmer hits at Leeds' 'non-triers'

lan Ross and John Duncan

WEEKEND that promised so much for Leeds United ended yesterday with recriminations and in-fighting after one senior player accused his team-mates of not trying in Sunday's humiliating Coca-Cola Cup final defeat and two shareholders pointed an angry finger at three board members who are set to make a fortune if the club goes

didn't play well but at least I competed. I tried. If people contened. I tried in people can come off at the end of a game and say that well, that's fine, but I don't think there were many who could.

"Some of the criticism levelled at the boss by our fans was also a disgrace. I was very disappointed with the treatment he received between the state of the stat cause he didn't deserve it. It was down to a group of players, quite a few of whom just did not perform."

One who was hardly given a chance, the Swede Tomas Brolin, announced that he is looking to leave Leeds at the end of the season only a few months after signing from Parma for \$4.5 million.

"I do not know where my future lies now," said Brolin. "I wanted to play on Sunday but the manager thinks his way and I think mine. Perhaps it's best if we go our separate ways. I have to go away and think about things, about whether I want to play for Leeds United. The way I feel at the moment, the answer may well be no."

six weeks after an incident in the visitors' dressing-room at Luton that left Grimsby's Italian winger Ivano Bonetti with a frac-

The transfer of Celtic's

Everton inched closer yes-terday when Celtic's man-

Laws charged in

flying-plate case

RIMSBY Town's Collins is valued at £2.65 million but, with Celtic still nursing hopes of pipping charged with misconduct Rangers to the Scottish Pre-

Wembley dressing rooms but he is seemingly determined to extend an eight year association with a club which he guided to League Champion ship success in 1992. Even so, he is expected to meet with his chairman, Leslie Silver, later this week to discuss a season of rank inconsistency.

Season of the hough, has prob-lems of his own, after an article in yesterday's Finan-cial Times which showed that an angry finger at three board members who are set to make a fortune if the club goes public.

"In my opinion the lack of effort shown by professional players in as big a game as a League Cup final was nothing short of disgraceful," said the midfielder Carlton Palmer. "I didn't play well but at least I ing from 18 per cent."

ing from 18 per cent.

The argument centres around the creation and valuation of "management shares" superior to ordinary shares owned only by the three, which are now valued at £186 each. Ordinary shares owned by all the other shareholders — are valued at only £2. Only management shareholders can be on the board of the company that owns Leeds.

However, Gilman yesterday vigorously defended the three. "I think this is a piece of mischievous journalism. Everything that has been done was done on profes-sional advice and approved at an AGM in 1992.

"You have to remember what the situation was then. The balance sheet of the club was in a mess and two directors, myself and Leslie Silver, were personally guaranteeing £7 million of loans with the bank. With that level of risk we needed the authority to manage the club properly. There is still work going on at the club and we still are per-Howard Wilkinson admitted to being deeply hurt by the abuse heaped upon him as he made his way towards the brought up."



Kick and Tel . . . Paul Gascoigne leads with his right under the thoughtful gaze of the England manager at Bisham Abbey

### Platt poised to reclaim his role

David Lacey says a poor start by Terry Venables' men against Bulgaria tomorrow could see their captain back on the bridge

wind blowing across the England training ground at Bisham yesterday did nobody much good. And an even colder comfort awaits those

friendly against Bulgaria.

Wembley is anticipating a thin attendance of not more than 25,000. England's open-

than 25,000. England's opening three games in the European Championship are sellouts but few are rushing to pay high prices for the rehearsals.

This is a pity because Bulgaria are easily the most experienced opponents England will encounter during the run-in. Practically all those who reached the World Cup semi-finals in 1994 are still there, even if they are at present appearing for clubs as dient appearing for clubs as di-verse as Atletico Madrid and Reading, Anorthosis Fama-

mier Division title, he is unlikely to move south be-fore the annual transfer deadline on Thursday. gusta and Luton. For Terry Venables the fix-Alarmed by persistent rumours of Barcelona's in-terest in Georgi Kinkladze, Manchester City's chairture marks the beginning of a culling process which will see Laws, a former Notting-ham Forest defender, ad-mits to flinging a plate of fered his Georgian internathe present squad of 26, plus players like Tony Adams and Gary Pallister at present kept sandwiches in anger but tional a substantial pay others have claimed a blow rise.

Brian Little, who guided Competition for places will The transfer of Celtic's Aston Villa to their Cocamidfielder John Collins to Cola Cup victory over Everton inched closer yesintensify over the next two months. As David Platt said yesterday: "We're all looking over our shoulders. Four or terday when Celtic's man-ager Tommy Burns met his Everton counterpart Joe Royle for talks on his annual salary to around £250,000.

Until recently there was a serious possibility that Platt would be among the discards. | bly conceded goals because of what I did. "Now it's not so much a He had had two knee opera-tions, his form for Arsenal was unimpressive, he had not played for England since the Umbro Cup games last summer and the progress made in his absence by Redknapp, Lee and Stone put his interna-tional future in greater doubt.

Even now Platt, though still recognised by Venables as England captain and by the country at large as the team's most consistent goalscorer, cannot be sure of regaining his place. Mark Wright and Paul Ince may well end their respective four-year and 13-month international limbos when Venables announces

surprise.
"It's just pleasing for me to be back and available for selection," Platt said yesterday before adding pointedly: "I feel now that I'm back on top of my game — and it was good enough before." Good enough, in fact, core 26 times for England

his side today but Platt's in-clusion would be more of a

chances. "I think I've added to my game since going to Italy," he said. "I don't go forward willy-nilly any more, which is five people, maybe more, aren't going to make the at Aston Villa. I scored a lot of

a major tournament and, be-cause England failed to qual-ify for the 1994 World Cup. these are in short supply.

Of the present squad only Of the present squad only Platt, Pearce, Wright, Gescoigne, Ince. Beardsley and Shearer have played in a World Cup or European Championship proper or both. "A tournament is different," said Platt. "You don't really get time to catch your breath. You play one game and you're immediately into the next." question of playing a holding role as being intelligent and

making sure that you don't open yourself up to the Venables watched Platt help Arsenal beat Newcastle United at the weekend and was pleased by what be saw. He is also fully aware of the the next."
Platt's international career

He is also fully aware of the took off when he volleyed value of having a nucleus of England's last-minute winner players who have appeared in against Belgium in Bologna

in 1990. Two years later he was England's leading scorer in Sweden at the last European Championship. Well, actually he was England's only scorer during that moribund

experience.

With Stone nursing a foot injury, Redknapp on the Liverpool beach and Ince still getting himself sent off for raging at referees, the mid-field situation is fluid enough for Platt to slip back any time. A poor start at Wembley tomorrow and it may be sooner rather than later.

### McCoist captaincy landmark

Patrick Glenn

LLY McCOIST Will surely become the only "triallist" in Scottish history to captain his country when he wins his 50th cap tomorrow in the friendly with Australia at Hampden Park. The Rangers striker is corrowing the armband

out by injury, reduced to 22 at most for the European Platt now plays down his reputation as a shiffer-out of land's manager Craig

what I used to do when I was nucleus of the squad who ternational level. others are Billy Wright, at Aston Villa. I scored a lot of qualified are on trial," said Pierluigi Pairetto of Italy Danny Blanchflower, Dixie goals doing this but we proba- Brown. "And McColst has will referee the England v Dean and Duncan Edwards.

not been part of that nucleus.

"But he broke his leg against Portugal in 1993 and, but for that, he would have won his 50th cap long before now if I thought he have won his 50th cap long before now. If I thought he is almost certain to win his was done, I wouldn't use him. But he has 17 goals from 49 matches and that's good at international level.

"Ally will start the match "Ally will start the best chance and Packie Bonner has "Ally will start the best chance "Ally will start t

Brown emphasised McCoist At 33, McCoist has apsire for Euro'96 this summer.

"Basically all of the players who are not part of the prove he can still play at infive footballing legends to yards.

gives **Saints** a lift

Martin Thorpe

T HAS not been a good few days for Ron Atkinson: his house burgled last week and another three points stolen in the fight to extend Coventry's stay in the top flight beyond 29 uninter-

rupted seasons.
Southampton lifted themselves out of the bottom three with the crucial victory, making way for Coveniry to drop below the danger line.

Both teams had come into this game with records befit-ting sides struggling at the wrong end of the table, just five league wins apiece, the lowest in the Premiership, In fact. Southampton had man-aged just one victory in their previous 14 league games and have experienced the depres-sion of defeat in the previous four. Coventry were not much

better off, one win in their last 10 and also with one of the toughest run-ins among the relegation contenders, the manager admitting his team's survival may eventually de-pend on them beating Man-chester United and Liverpool,

chester United and Liverpool,
not the sort of bet most people
would put their money on.
And the odds considerably
lengthened after just lmin
38sec last night when Coventry went behind. Daish fouled
Shipperley 20 yards out, Le
Tissier's free-kick was defiected for a corner which the
Southampton enigma fired
into the near post for Dodd to into the near post for Dodd to glance in with his head. Ogrizovic then had to be at

his best to prevent Southamp-ton going further ahead, sav-ing well from Magilton and twice from Heaney, the second a vicious dipper which the veteran keeper tipped over acrobatically.
With rain having turned the going from good to heavy, passing was not easy and the lack of flowing movement could be put down partly to that; but there was also a shortage of telling skill from either side, with many moves floundering on misunder-standings and poor ball control.

Much of Southampton's poverty is explained by the loss of form of Le Tissier; but Coventry have few excuses. Brian Little, Atkinson's successor at Aston Villa, has shown you can buy success with £12 million, roughly the

from Leeds's Gary McAllister, who has been in out-ter for the night. But Scot-land's manager Craig and deserves his chance."

Inot played for Celtic since immediately after the break fell to Southampton, Nellson wolleying just wide from 20

Coventry Chy: Ogrizovic; Borrows Daish, Shaw, Burrows, Richardson Williams, Sztako (Ndiovu, 63), Jess Whelan, Dublin.

### Pools Forecas

was struck.

			_	- 17001
ENICHUSION (SAGE				33 Nort
FIRST DIVISION	-			34 Roch
				35 Scab
1 Derby		Skale .	4 .	S& Torm
2 Crimsby		Directogham		
3 Laiounter		Shelf Uld	1	VAUXIL
4 Luton		<b>Spewick</b>	2	37 Bath
6 Milleudi		C Patron		36 Bron
6 Morwich		Chariton	7	39 Dove
7 Port Yole	¥	Barnsley	1	
6 Portsmouth		West Brom	1	SELL'S
9 Reading		Oldham	*	40 Falk
19 Southend		Transmore	1	41 Hibe
11 Sunderland	*	Huddersfield	1	42 Perti
12 Walvos	*	Watterd	*	43 Heith
SECOND DIVISION				SCOTTE
18 Blackpool	¥	Brentford	1	44 Aird
14 Bournemouth		Bristol Syrs	2	45 CIVO
15 Bradford C	ď	Swanzea	•	46 Dune
10 Brighton		Fotherham	1	47 St.Je
17 Bristol C		Swindow	×	48 SI MI
18 Crewe		Chesterfold	2	
19 Notts Co		Caritsia	1	SCOTTIS
20 Peterborowsh		(Yalsali	1	49 Barre
21 Strewsbury		Hulf	1	60 Fort
22 Stockport		Oxford		51 Mont
23 Wreakers		York	1	52 Star
24 Wycomba		Burnley	•	53 Stran
THEID DIVISION			ĺ	SCOTTIS
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26 Daributton		Lincoln	4	55 Com
27 Donosster		Chester		#6 Livin
THE PERSON NAMED IN			•	SA PLAN

80 Hartlepack	y Colohester
81 L Orient	v Bary
32 Mansfield	-
33 Northeraptes	v Scunthoroe
Tel Declarate	
35 Scaborough	y Preston
86 Torquey	v Hareford
37 Batti	v Plungorn
36 Bronzgrove	v Slough
39 Dover	v Morecause
40 Falkirk	v Hearts
41 Hibersian	y Klimemack
THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 1	A MODIFICACIÓN
43 Heith Hwy	y filmgers
SCOTTESH FIRST D	NOM
44 Airdrie	v Dumbarian
45 Clydebank	y Danierodine
46 Dundey	w Morton
47 St Johnstone	√ Hermitan
48 St Mirron	v Dandes Wet
72	
60 Fortar	w Ayr Und
51 Montrose	v Bast Fife
52 Stirting A	v Stenhousemuli
53 Stranger	v Green of Stit
SCOTTISH THIRD D	NYISION
54 Arbroade	y Allos
55 Cowdeniesth	v Albiga Ryre
#6 Livingston	v East Stirling
57 Queens Pk	y Caledonian
MS Ross	v Brechin
	81 L Orient 25 Margield 32 Northansplow 34 Rochdale 35 Scaborough 86 Torquey VALIXHALL COMPR 37 Bath 26 Bronnsgrove 39 Dorer SELL'S SCOTTISH 40 Falliris, 41 Hibersslan 42 Pertielt 43 Heith Hive SCOTTISH FIRST D 44 Airdrie 45 Citydologic 46 Dander 47 St. Johnstone 48 St Mirrien 50 Fertar 51 Montrose 52 Skirling A 53 Stranzaer

Shaffield Wed 25 Southhampton

04 Stoke City

02 Sunderland 01 Tottenham Hot.

29 Wimbledon

16 Wolves

18 Celtic

### Teamtalk

#### The Independent News and Reports Service Call 0891 33 77+ 19 Sheffield United 15

List Group ICM	-	the severe 1 meets
Aston VWa	11	Leeds United
Birm. City	34	Leicester City
Blackburn	21	Liverpool
Bolton	36	Man. City
Brentford	24	Man. United
Burnley	31	Middlesbrough
Chelsea	80	Millwall
Coventry City	17	Newcastle Utd
Derby County	28	Norwich City
Everton	05	Notim. Forest
March Toron	20	ODE

Soccer
FA CARL

**BIG PREMIERSHIP** ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE

Third Division

West Brom C, Wichterhampton 4, Liverpool
O Second Division: Port Vale 5, Grinsly
3, Third Division: Watsall 1, Wigan 1,
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
Piret Division: Children C, Brighton 2, Milwell 3, Briston C 1; Odoro Utd 0, Watterd 2,
Swiston 1, West Ham 1; Tottenham 4,
Crystal Palace D, Peshoused Bristol Purs
V Charlion. Second Division: Postpotwell
Birmingham Pylymouth
SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL
LEAGHER Watter 0.

#### Golf

GOH

MCDEMMOTT CLASSIC (New Orleans):
Final scores (US unless stated): 27.5 S
McCarron 68, 67, 68, 71. 280 T Watson 68, 65, 72, 74, 284 T Toiller 70, 59, 68, 76. 282 S
8 McCailseler 73, 64, 75, 71; F Stewart 74, 71, 67, 77; J Edwards 72, 68, 70, 72; S
Lowety 71, 71, 68, 73; D Love 68, 68, 72, 75; L
Clerrents 67, 65, 74, 72, 28.4 B Fabel 73, 58, 73, 68; J Huston 69, 73, 71, 71, 73, 68, 67, 67, 67, 72, 74; L Lamphan 74, 69, 69, 73, 76; Clearwater 71, 71, 73, H Sulton 71, 68, 73, 75; S Verplank 70, 57, 72, 78, 286 B Glider 69, 71, 71, 73, Ms. 287 F Mobilo (NZ) 67, 73, 71, 78, 289 G Parry (Aus) 74, 69, 71, 75, 282 E EM (SA) 72, 71, 72, 77, M Kurangio (Japan) 70, 69, 75, 76, 294 S Higgshi (Japan) 72, 71, 74, 77.

Tennis

Lipton Ghampionshups (Rey Bigcane, Flovids) Third rotated silent P Seaspress (US) bt J Historic (Smitz) 7-5, 7-6; 6
homeleante (Cro) bt J Sanchez (Sp) 6-0,
6-3, B Krajicek (Hoth) bt S Bruguera (Sp)
7-5, 7-6; A Mactivedov (Us) bt C Ploiline
(F) 6-2, C-2; P Koreán (C2) bt M Flios
(Chile) 6-4, 6-7; 6-4; T Marries (US) bt F
Furtan (t) 6-3, 6-2; V Spandes (US) bt F
Partan (t) 6-3, 6-2; V Spandes (US) bt S
Pescosolido (H) 7-6; 6-2; M Chang (US) bt J
B[ot kinan (Swe) 6-3, 6-2; W General (G2)
A Habour (Ger) bt G Fernandez (US) 6-3, 8-2; A
A Habour (Ger) bt G Fernandez (US) bt M Werdel Witmoyer (US) 6-3, 6-2; L Denocan of the Company (US) 6-3, 8-3; L Denocan of the Company (US) bt J Novecha (C2) 6-3, 8-3; L Denocan of the Company (US) bt K Beogent (Nelh) 6-4, 7-5;
III J Formandez (US) bt F Labet (Arg) 6-2;
III J Formandez (US) bt F Labet (Arg) 6-2;
III J Formandez (US) bt F Labet (Arg) 6-2;
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III J Formandez (US) bt F Labet (Arg) 6-2;
III J Formandez (US) 6-2;

### Basketball

Basketball

RBAs Cleveland 90, Vancouver 86; New York 85, DaRas 76; San Anionio 100, redians 88, New Jersey 84, Milwuider 80; Toronio 108, Chicago 100: Washington 52, Deniver 90: Maint 111. Boston 96; Phoenix 103, LA Clappers 92, Sasathe 112, Sacramento 110; Charlofte 103, LA Labore 94, Leading et and Phylosomer 103, LA Labore 94, Leading et anionism 104; Labore 104, Leading et anionism 105, Labore 106, Leading 105, Leading 105,

Bowls

World CHAMPIONENIPS (Adelaids)
Singles Section As J Riveres (Arg) bt 7
Mathal (Pol) 25-9. 9 Fewer (Kernya) bt P
Mathaliceut (Fill) 25-15; IR Research (HIQ) bt
F Tausisi Amituana: (W Samoa) 25-14; IRweres bt Tausisi Amituana! 25-6; T Ascock (Eng) bt Fowler 25-17; Remedy In
Mathal 25-13; Section in S Allew (Ire) bt P
Knight (Br) 25-10; It Bressey (N21 bt J
Ouerlpe) (Guerrasy) 25-14; R Gerde
(Scot) bt J Vandeventer (25m) 25-15; R Gerde
(Scot) bt J Vandeventer (25m) 25-15; R Gerde
(Scot) bt J Vandeventer (25m) 25-16; Riveres
(Scot) bt Thomas (Set) 25-15; R Gerde
(Scot) bt T Voong Chal (Sing)
25-16; Allem bt Vandeventer (25-15; Bressey (N21 bt Thomas 25-8; Section of A
Hicke (Sols) bt P Yoong Chal (Sing)
25-15; I Berkeld bt J Pope Pornaleu
(PNG) 25-15; Hicke bt Gilliand (25-24;
Rabitan It Babe 25-9; Popes Pornaleu
(PNG) 25-15; Hicke bt Gilliand (25-24;
Rabitan It Babe 25-9; Popes Pornaleu
(PNG) 25-15; Hicke bt Gilliand (25-24;
Rabitan It Sabe 25-9; Popes Pornaleu
(PNG) 25-15; Section Br (10 p) 25-16; K Kentsew (Aus)
bt McCormick 25-17; B Le Bernyaned
(Jer) bt T Dion (US) 25-7; J Price (Wal) bt
P Shaw (Maiswy) 25-16; K Kentsew (Aus)
bt McCormick 25-18; Perion bt Le Marquand 25-21; Shaw bt Dion 25-14; Feurm
Section Ax Assertation bt Cook Islands
34-12; Irrelead bt Jerséy 25-21; Sectional
ut Malandis 33-12; Elmbathus et Singapore
2-14 Section St Cantade bt Brazil 28-11;
Mong Kamp bt Nanibn 21-17; Herw Sea-

## land bt Papua New Guines 30–10, Section Cs Bobayane bt Kenya 31–14, Ringland bt Guorrayo, 27–14. Bisingvia bt Thatand 22–15; South Africa bt Swaziland 27–24. Section Dt Fiji bt Argentina 24–23; Values States bt Zambie 23–18; Wales bt West-

#### Cricket

SHEFFIELD SHIELD Sydneys South Australia 383 (G Blevell 106, D Lehmann 62, P Nobes 70) and 207-6 (B Johnson 50no), New South Wales 257 (M Bavan 67

### ice Hockey

#### Fixtures

#### Soccer

ner v Cambridge Utd; Fulha ent (7.45); Hereford v Lin Bury, Scunitorpe v Exeler Norway Chympic XI. EUROPEAN U-21 C'SHIP: Quarter

N-W COUNTRIES LEAGUES FINE SWING Higher Fliston v Nantwich Tr. Holes Old BOYN v Trafford: Kidagrove Ath v Mousiny, Newcasthe Tr. Chadderigh. PEDERIATION BRIEVERY MORTHSRUM LEAGUE: First Divisions Dunston Feder-ation v Episton CW. MORTHSRIM COUNTRES SAST LEAGUE: Cash Semi-fiscal Stockstridge PS v Os-self Albien.

PORTINE LEAGUE (7.0): Piret Everion v.
Bollon. Secoush Man City v Middlessor.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION
First Divisions Phymosth v Swarster
(2.0): Torquey Vareport AFC (7.0).
Escoud Divisions Phymosth v Swarster
(2.0): Torquey Vareport AFC (7.0).
LEAGUE OF WALES Constraw v Compass
Buy, Inter Cardin v Aberystryth; Newsown
v Cembrat. Caps: Sami-final, Siret-log.
Bibw Vale v Sarry Tn. Rugby Union

## CLUBBC Cross Kays v Neeth (7,0); Gla-morgan Wanderfox v Treorchy (7,0); South Wales Polico v Stateness (7,0); Tvorton v Exister (7,15); Tradegar v Pontypool (7,0), with Elizabiant College Triffore Trade Valradgymlais v Durvant (7,0, Vatradgym

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL Great Brit-ain v France (3-0, Sigham). 8 Colin Jackson is ready to bury the hatchet with British Athletic Federahen's leader Peter Rational and run in the government body's meetings this summer. The world 119m hurdles record holder destared today that the wents to put last season's conflict behind him and concentrate on taking the Olympic title in Atlanta. The BAP's new president Mary Poters wante to reacore harmony in the sport and behind-the-econor moves it avoid a Jackson toy-coll are set to galler momentum.

Sport in brief

#### The ubiquitous Sir John Hall

has further expanded his Tyneside sporting empire by buying the Budweiser League chub Newcastle Comets. His Club conglomerate now com-prises the Premiership soccer team, Newcastle rugby union club and the (formerly Durham) Wasps ice hockey team.

#### **Table Tennis** Chen Xinhua, England's lead ing player for the last stx

years, is struggling with a knee injury which, if it needs surgery, will keep him out of the Olympic Games in Atlanta, writes Richard Jago. He is already out of Thursday's match between England and Poland, which will decide which of them remains in the super division of the Euro-pean League, and is unlikely Championships in Bratislava

#### Golf Scott McCarron became the

third consecutive first-time winner on the US PGA Tour when he best Tom Watson by five strokes at the Freeport McDermott Classic over the demanding English Turn course designed by Jack Nick-laus in New Orleans. An ex-cellent aggregate of 275, 13 under par, denied the former US Masters and US Open champion his first tournsment win for nine years.

### **Bowls**

Tony Allcock, defending his world singles title in Adelaide, opened with a 25-17 victory over Kenya's Oliver Fowler, easing away from 30-17. Scotland's Richard Corsie, Ireland's Sammy Allen and John Price of Wales also won their opening match

Nigel Short won an impressive 46-move endgame against the Bulgarian No. 1, Veselin Topalov, to share the thirdround lead with Garry Ka-sparov at Amsterdam, Europe's strongest tournament this year. Kasparov, beaten by Topalov in the opening round, plays black against Short in a critical game this afternoon.

### Tennis

Petr Korda, Daniel Vacek, Jiri Novak and Martin Damm have been selected by the Czech captain Vladimir Savrda to face the United States in the second round of the Davis Cup world group in Prague next month.

Reading's 19-year-old striker Mark Pearn, impressive in the 4-3 defeat by India, has been called up for the pre-Olympic six-nation event in Atlanta on April 11-17 when



Atlanta on April 11-17 when Britain will meet Pakistan. India. Argentina. Korea and the United States.
SQUARE S Maste (Reading). D Lacknes (E Grastack). Stylett (Reading). J Main. (O Loughtonians). Seems Singh (Southpate). S Hassist (Hourslow and Army). James; (Feddington). K Tather (Cannock). E Thompson (Hourslow). N Thompson (D Loughtonians). C Mayer (Cannock). E Thompson (D Loughtonians). C Mayer (Cannock). E Thompson (D Loughtonians). C Mayer (Sauthpate). C Glies (Havan). J Shaw (Southpate). C Glies (Havan). S Peers (Reading).

Flying the flag **2 0800 000 111** 

Rebels look

to Europe

Rugby League

**Paul Fitzpatrick** 

of Super League's

HE 311 players con-

tracted to Rupert Murdoch's outlawed

Super League were

esterday forbidden from set

ting up their own competition

by the federal court and a

number of them could seek

refuge in the European Super

on Friday.

rout in Australia

on the effects

The water

David Foot and Mike Selvey on the likeliest man to succeed Ray Illingworth as England's team manager today

# Lord's may bank on Lloyd

often uneasy reign as manager of Eng-land's Test team will officially end today when members of the Test and County Cricket Board executive committee meet, in effect, to agonise over the name of his

David Lloyd, 49, is the strong favourite. He has worked closely and productively as Lancashire's ebul-lient coach with the England earth psychology and humour and gets on well with players. The Accrington-born Lloyd played in nine Tests, making a double hundred against India in 1974, and has made a notable impression as an as-tute dressing-room leader at Old Trafford; Lancashire members would be rejuctant

His main rival is John Em. there will be enough hot air to past winter; as such his dual-ourcy, 43, but he has recently send Richard Branson's bal-igned a four-year contract loon into orbit. burey, 43, but he has recently signed a four-year contract with Northamptonshire and the complications over parting company with a new county would be greater. Illingworth, ready to shed

his duties as manager, is in London today to attend an official luncheon. He does not intend to make any public statement, though he will continue as the chairman of tors until the autumn. There remains an element of uncertainty about develop-

enort will be made to avoid an embarrassing and incon-clusive outcome. Yet, signifi-cantly, it is likely that the TCCB will make no more than a brief, probably non-committal, statement about the new appointment.

After the Caribbean tour of early 1994 Illingworth was ap-

he took the team manager's post, there was no dual-job de-

watch it running out of con-trol, and with a fireproof

ever, involved a reversion to the old system of a chairman of selectors and a chief-coachsage on board.

ever, is who gets the unenvi-able task of attempting to

what Bob Woolmer has achieved for South Africa or. for that matter. Bob Simpson for Australia.



Illingworth . . . unscathed

wickshire/Graveney plan employ Ian Botham as a moti vator. Was this dream the result of somebody eating cheese before bedtime? If the pipes need fixing, you do not ring an electrician For all the scorn heaped

upon Illingworth in recent months, he remains relatively unscathed. He retains the full support of Yorkshire — not own but because the county would not know success these days if it stood up and played the theme tune from Emmerdale — and, it appears, the majority of the other counties. There are, honestly, some who still believe that he their legal standing back home would be yet another complication in a tangled business. Not surprisingly Lindsay was recommending

to reflect on their position," he said, "and accept the ad-vice of Mr Cowley. Unpalatable as it might be for them, they must try to protect their clubs in what is a really diffi-cult situation for everyone."

League which opens in Paris Maurice Lindsay, chief executive of the Rugby Football League, said in Sydney that he had been "besieged" by

requests from leading Austra-lian players wanting to play being forced to give up lucrative contracts.
The judges did not actually prevent them from orga-The players, he said, were disillusioned by the court's ruling which not only stops them from setting up a rival nising their own league but clearly made it difficult for them by determining, if they competition to the Australian

Rugby League but says they must return to their ARL clubs if they want to be paid. Ken Cowley, chief executive of Super League and chairman of News Corporation, Super League's backers, said it would be in the play-ers' best interests to heed the

court's directive. "I am publicly advising Super League contracted players that the best short-term plan for them is to sup-port their clubs in the ARL," said Cowley.

The players of Auckland, Penrith and — with "great reluctance" — Canterbury were among the first to return. Others seem sure to follow, though there are still powerful pockets of resis-tance, notably at Brisbane and Canberra. They have been among the fiercest critics of the ARL but it is perhaps no

Daley and Ricky Stuart of In addition News Corpora-tion are due to spend 287 mil-two of the most accomplished lion in the European Super

caution.
"I have advised the players

Lindsay said that the "rebels" were disappointed and resentful that they were being forced to play in the ARL or risk living without

"Obviously they feel they cannot start their own compe-tition if it means they are to be financially penalised by

did, they would not get paid." The absence of the 311 had a calamitous effect on last weekend's Australian pro-gramme with six of the scheduled 10 fixtures failing to start. Some of the games that did go ahead provided

It could be better this week "We want the players to play football and we just hope they show consideration to their clubs and to the fans out there that want to see them on the field. That's got to be the pri-ority," said John Quayle, the ARL's chief executive. Quayle said that the ARL would not set any deadlines for the players to return but was hopeful they would be available at the weekend.

The cost of News Corpora tion's abortive attempt to establish Super League in New Zealand and Australia could run into hundreds of millions coincidence that they are also of pounds. The estimated inamong the highest earners on the Murdoch payroll.

Lindsay said that among the players who had "besieged" him were Laurie over £100 million.

players in the world at pres-ent and their presence in the European Super League doch's wealth the sums would be a major attraction. amount to more than loose But how that would affect change.

### Ballesteros tries hand-made cure

David Davies in Ponte Vedre

EVERIANO Bailestero will this week attempt to resuscitate his flagging career with a set of custom nade clubs and a \$1 million incentive deal. The clubs are made by Cobra, the company founded by the former Australian Amateur champion Tom Crow and recently sold to the American Brands giant for \$700 million. Greg Norbra and uses their clubs, took \$40 million as part of the deal.

Championship at the Tourna-

He's gone through 12 to 18 months when he hasn't months when he hash't played to his standards but I think he's fust too good to fade away. That's why we signed him, because we be-lieve in quality players. "Let's face it, if you wanted to point to the two most

charismatic players in the world you'd have to say Greg in America and Seve in

Europe."
The wooing of Ballesteros began last year at the US PGA in Los Angeles, where Cobra is based. "He came to our factory for an hour and stayed for five," said Crow.

"If he plays nearly as well as he has in the past, he'll he wanted to see even more, make a million dollars a year," said Crow, as he watched Ballesteros play a practice round for the Players Championship at the Tourna. worked together on the exact ment Players Club near Jack-sonville in Florida.

"I have tremendous faith that he'll be a winner again. lesteros has to do is play.

#### Swimming

### Pickering to duck British

AREN PICKERING is to AREN Flonding squad training camp at Tallasee in Florida on April 29 to May 14 even though the chief coach Bill Furniss has said all selected swimmers would be expected to attend. Pickering, named yester-

camps, especially when her coach Dave Champion is not The surprise in the squad is Janine Belton, 16. Belton. fifth in the 200m freestyle final at the trials in Sheffield. will swim the heats of the

OREAY BRUTALIN: Mem 50m fr

Örlüngham (City of Birmingham). 100s herterthe J Hickman (Stockbart Metro)

200m betterflyt Hickman 200m medleys no qualifier. 400m medleys no qualifier. 400m medleys no qualifier. 4 x 100m fracetyles Shackell. M Severes (Satelides). A Rejbers (Haffield). 4 x 200m fracetyles Planer, Clayton, Severe, J Safer (Chy of Birmingham). A x 100m fracetyles Planer, Clayton, Memers 50m fracetyles S Holph (Chy of Newcastle) 100m fracetyles S Hardcastle (Bracknell: 800m fracetyles S Hardcastle (Bracknell: 800m fracetyles S Hardcastle, 100m beokstrokes H Sistor (Warrington Warriors). 200m beokstrokes J Dealins (City of Coventry). 100m breastberkes J King (Borough of Wallham Forest). 200m breastairokes J King (Borough of Wallham Forest). 200m breastairokes J Forest (York Chy). 200m betterflys C Foot (York Chy). 200m betterflys C Foot (York Chy). 200m betterflys C Foot (York Chy). 200m betterflys No qualifier. Birmingham). 100es betterfile C Foot (York Cityl. 200m betterfile No quelifier. 400es medleys Robbs, 400es medleys Hardcabile, 4 x 100m freestyle: Pickering, Robin, A Sheppard (Milingavis and Bearsden), C Willimott (Barnel Coptibill). 4 x 200es freestyle (from): Pickering, Hardcastle, C Hudderl (City of Leeds), V Horner (Derwentside), J Bellen (City of Bradicrot).



captain Mike Atherton. He has a natural gift for down-to-

**Rugby Union** 

ments at the meeting. Every effort will be made to avoid

pointed chairman of selectors and followed it up by becoming manager of the England team in March 1995 — an unprecedented free hand which was seen by the counties as the panacea for all ills. The trouble was that, when

scription. Instead of defining the job and then seeking somebody to fill it, the counties decided Illingworth was the man to be employed. In effect he was allowed to write his own ticket. Having created the mon-ster, the TCCB has had to

Like most meetings involving the combined brain power of the counties, however, would be to South Africa this

mated his wish to stand down from the team manager's the attempt to replace him as chairman of selectors with David Graveney ended in farce on Friday.

The abortive move, how-

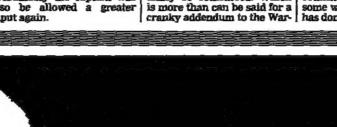
cum-manager; as such, Illingworth seems to have taken If that is the system the TCCB wants — and it works in Australia, South Africa

and has done so in the Carib-bean — then Lloyd or Emburey would take charge of team affairs while Illingworth arbitrator and co-ordinator. Presumably the captain will also be allowed a greater

coach, bully and cajole the England team into the 21st century; as they appear only recently to have come to terms with the 20th century. it would seem to require not just a bowling machine but a Lloyd and Emburey are the only realistic candidates to do

Nobody seems prepared to entertain the idea that the best candidate might be a foreigner, a view that appears to have done neither South Africa nor Sri Lanka any harm.

How much money, for exam-ple, would it take to bring Woolmer back? It should certainly be considered. Which



## and clubs split over contracts

Robert Armstrong

HE doomsday scenario of a breakaway by Eng-land's leading clubs remains after another round of inconclusive talks with the Rugby Football Union at Lon-don's East India Club

A disturbing lack of pro-gress on the key questions of players' contracts, next sea-son's competitive structure, and television and commercial agreements has prompted private accusations of stalling and brinkmanship by negoti-ators on both sides though publicly all concerned are

maintaining a stiff silence.
Contingency plans have already been discussed informally by members of England the company set up to develop the professional aspirations of the top 10 clubs. Instead of dry. I believe a limited a Courage League One next amount of money will come season there could be a Sanyo into the game and a limited First Division controlled independently by EFDC directors accountable to shareholders rather than the RFU. Japanese sponsors and investors are said to be

monitoring the situation with intense interest.
The entry of the English clubs into the European (Heineken) Cup for the first time next autumn has also prompted a demand by the EFDC for the right to negotiate a new enhanced contract with BSkyB. The clubs are, of party to a three-year contract, which has two years to run, between ITV and Five Nations Cup Rugby Limited. But such is their need for fresh income to sign up and pay the players that they are

Even so, it is the battle over players' contracts that will ul-

**Twickenham** trols English rugby. EFDC is determined that the players will be contracted solely to the clubs and released, on a

tight rein only, for interna-tional matches and not squad weekends. Dark hints by the clubs that they could organise their own Five Nations Championship can be discounted. The television contract between the home unions and the BBC, which covers the championship, still has a year to run and could be enforced by a High Court injunction.

No player with an ounce of wit is likely to sign a contract with his club or the RFU until it is absolutely clear where the money to pay him is com-ing from and which clubs will get the lion's share of TV in-Gloucester and Scotland forward, put it: "The bubble could burst very quickly and leave a lot of people high and

> the benefit. The strategic chasm be tween the RFU and the clubs has been highlighted by per-sistent demands from the North and London that the Divisional Championship should continue with new

sponsorship next season.
Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, may well regard him-self, rather like the players as another piggy-in-the-middle, answerable both to the RFU executive committee and to a lesser extent to pow-erful clubs such as Bath, Har-

lequins and Leicester. The RFU, though, does hold an ace card in that it is ultimately responsible for the selection of the England team scheduled to play seven internationals next season. The leading players know that a rapprochement with Twick-enham is central to their lu-

unlikely to back down on that



Blowing hot . . . Michael Chang, the recent Champions Cup winner, competing in the Lipton Championships in Florida, where he is fourth seed. He beat Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman 6-3, 6-2 in the third round, his seventh successive singles victory

# Wales wants dual Boxing

**Pavid Plummer** 

HE Welsh Rugby Union will today urge the Five Nations' Comuropean tournament

Following a two-hour teeting with its First Div-sion clubs, the WRU and he 12-strong First Division tent structure comprising se 20-team European Cup, se equivalent of soccer's efa Cup for another 30 ides, an Ariglo-Welsh com-etition involving all the op-flight sides in both Juntries, a Welsh league layed on a home or away asis, and the Welsh Cup.

The average number of xtures for each team retching from the end of ugust to the end of May. he clubs want the change

WRU believes that the Anglo-Welsh tournament until 1997-8

The contentious issue of who will control the competitions was not debated. The clubs have maintained that they should share all the proceeds from the com-petitions they are exclu-sively involved in and run them in conjunction with clubs from the other unions. Two working par-ties are being set up to look into flature lists and the commercial side of the tournaments.

• Pontypridd and Llanelli will meet in the semi-finals of Swalec Cup for the second successive year. Last night's draw matched Neath with Newport in the ould be 30 in a season other match, with the games to be played back-toback on neutral grounds on Saturday, April 13.

#### Jarbarians pick Gallagher

opted for a blend of Italns, Frenchmen, Argentinns. New Zealanders and ottish forwards for their inual Easter Saturday atch at Cardiff on April 6. e former All Black John

end Scotland), & Gottrell (Cambridge U) & School (Alumni BA and Argentina). S Selvet (Alumni BA and Argentina), P Vaccent (Celveson can't buy; D Charves (Pacing and France), A Pfichet (San Issino and Argentina), A Wast (Glasgow HK strikend), K Makemde (Suring County and Scotland), P Wright (Goroughmuir and Scotland), M Glasbert (Traviso and Taly), S Mause (GHK and Scotland), X Steed (Ppcing and Franco, J Gardner (Traviso and Taly), I Marrison (I, Scottsh and Scotland).

### Euro competition Tyson: I need more than \$30m a fight

Robin Gregg in Los Angeles

MIKE TYSON, who regained the WBC version of the world heavyweight title 10 days dards for pay bargaining.
"I want more than \$30 million," said the fighter who was paid that sum for stopping the holder Frank Bruno in the third round. "I don't think I'm getting

In the seven months since able to draw like I draw.

Tyson was released from Tye been in prison three years illegally. No one loves me but I didn't whine Tyson was released from prison for raping a beauty queen he has had three short fights and collected \$65 million, but this evidently is not enough.

"I'm very unhappy," he said. "I'm not being treated fairly. I've been screwed my whole career. I've not been getting justice and it's just not fair. What I have ab done for boxing, what I his have brought to the sport, I ar deserve more. No one is rea

before the Bruno fight and say 'why not give me \$35 million or 40 or 45 million'. I didn't pall out of the fight complaining, but I'm complaining now because I'm entitled to complain."

need more money The Don King organisa-tion, which promoted the Bruno fight and has Tyson under contract for seven

Tyson was not specific about who was to blame for

his situation nor what fig-ure he would consider reasonable for his services. I has Vegas, made no com-ment last night.

### ice Hockey

#### Treble note within Steelers' range as they reach Wembley

Vic Batchelder

SHEFFIELD STEELERS, the league champions and B&H Cup winners, remained on course to complete a clean sweep of this season's three major domestic trophies by reaching the final stages of

the British Championship at Wembley this weekend. Steelers, the defending hampionship holders, took top place in Group A of the play-offs by beating Basing-stoke Bison 7-3 at home on Sunday, although they had to wait until the final period before clinching a place in this first semi-final at 1.15pm -

against Humberside Hawks. After losing 3-0 at Notting-ham the previous day, Shef-field had to beat Basingstoke

to go through and the win was sealed when Ken Priestlay and Tim Cranston, with their second goals of the game, and Scott Neil, scored in the closing 123 seconds. The match had begun 40

Neil, whose goal came 10

seconds from time, said ves-

minutes late because Basingstoke were delayed on their journey from Fife, where they had lost 9-7 the night before.

ham and Durham is at 6pm would be a 'big bonus. Whoever wins that game has a big advantage in Sunday's final". Assuming they beat Hum-berside, Neil hopes Steelers will face Nottingham Pan-thers in the final. "I'd prefer Nottingham to win because they don't have so many players as Durham and they'll use up a lot of energy on Saturday

night," said Neil.
Doubtless the Humberside Hawks, who ended Durham's 100 per cent play-off record by beating them 6-4 in Hull on terday that playing in the Saturday, will be interested in Neil's assumption of semi-

Saturday's first semi-final | the second between Notting- | final success against them. They came from behind to win that game, having trailed 4-2 going into the final period. Two goals from Graham Garden and one apiece by Derek Laxdal and Barcley Pearce secured their first Wembley visit since 1993. The Hawks' success comes

family," he continued. "No

one gives a shit about me. I have a short life span. I

don't have any endorse-ments. I make my money

off my sweat and I'm not satisfied with \$30 million. I

at a time when the team's future is in grave doubt as they are owned by Humber-side County Council, which ceases to exist at midnight next Sunday. "It would be great to go out with a bang at Wembley," said their captain Mike Bishop. "The city de-

### Olympic training camp

day in the 28-strong squad for Atlanta, has made clear in the past her dislike of training

4 x 200m if, as expected, Sarab Hardcastle is in the final of the 800m freestyle on the

ORECAT BRUTABLE Mean Sôm freestyles
M Foctor Icity of Carditi), 100m
freestyles N Shackell (Mittleid), 200m
freestyles P Penner (City of Lincoln), A
Claylon (City of Leost), 400m freestyles;
Palmer, 1500m freestyles; G Smith
(Slockport Metro), Palmer 100m
handsstrokes N Willey (Bernet Copthell), M
Harris (Tower Hamlets), 200m
breestylestrokes; A Ruckwood (City of
Birmingham), Harris, 100m
breestylestrokes; R Maden (Rochdate
Aquabears), 200m breestylesks; R
Gellinotani (City of Birmingham), 100m

# SportsGuardian

### MODAHL VERDICT LEAVES IAAF FURIOUS WITH TESTING LABORATORY

Stephen Bierley in Cape Town on the embarrassing reversal for athletics only four months before the Olympic Games

# Drugs policy left in chaos the canvas

the Olympic Games the procedures for drug testing were thrown into doubt by the International Amateur Athletic Federation's decision yesterday to drop the Diane

Modahl case. The IAAF was clearly furious with the incompetence of the Lisbon laboratory which allowed Modahl's urine sample to degenerate — the basis of her defence — thus leading to serious doubts over the high level of testosterone

in the sample.
"In the past we have blindly followed what we have received. The lesson is this should not be automatically followed. There must be some sort of triple check," said Ist-van Gyulal, the secretary gen-eral of the IAAF.

This seems to imply that the IAAF may demand a far more hands on approach to testing, with perhaps a third sample being analysed by their own independent

experts.

Modahl, cleared on appeal
by the British Athletic Federation last July, finally heard
the other decision she most
wanted thousands of miles away from where it was taken. When the LAAF delivered its news in South Africa, Modahl was at a training camp in Albuquerque. She ex-pressed her bitterness at the authorities who have opposed her. "I have fought for this for just over 20 months," she said. "Now both the IAAF and BAF have accepted my

Modahi's case was based on claims that the high levels of testosterone detected in her urine sample were created by overheated laboratory storage conditions and last week further scientific evidence was produced on her behalf by two experts.

Insisting this removed any doubts about her innocence Modahi called on the IAAF

inspiration. I can also start to make plans and set some per sonal targets. I will continue my training in preparation

for the coming season.

"However, I cannot forget the past. The powerful organisations in control of sport can make you or break you. I believe there were those who wanted to break me. But I also had powerful forces on



Moment of joy . . . Diane Modahl and her husband Vicente, who were finally vindicated yesterday after a 19-month battle

"to do the right thing and drop the case".

Yesterday she said she must now "look to the future in this battle. There is no more in the coffers but we have finally won. We have lost an awful lot on the back of this. We will ultimately lose our house because of

"It has been a costly fight and not just in financial terms. The mental strain it has placed on myself, my hus-band and our friends has been enormous. I am very angry that it happened in the

The IAAF described it as "the end of a long story" al-though clearly it is not, at east as far as the BAF is con-

"We have gone the distance | cerned. The Modahls are cur- | testing positive at a meeting | analytical data was not | sition on such matters. "The this battle. There is no | rently suing the federation | in Lisbon in the summer of | satisfactory". | council listens to all requests rently suing the federation for £480,000, comprising legal costs and loss of earnings, with the BAF stating its intention of "defending the case

> The 27-person IAAF council hours yesterday and on the recommendation of its doping commission chairman, Pro-fessor Arne Ljungqvist, it deto an arbitration panel. In other words, it believed there

was no case to answer Modahl was banned for four years by a BAF disciplin-ary hearing six months after

Although she was later cleared by an appeals panel after it accepted that major scientific and legal irregular- issue the said and suggested that selection and legal irregular- issue the said and suggested that they might be receptive to any requests. But whether ities had occurred in the testing procedure, the IAAF was not satisfied with the

A recommendation was made that the matter should be forwarded to arbitration, subject to a thorough study of a further analysis of the possible to pursue this course remainder of the Modahl and therefore a serious

Three independent experts found that the Lisbon laboralory, which is accredited by the International Olympic answer," said Gyulai. Committee and is still open, "had not conducted the addi-

satisfactory".
The second condition — a seems likely that the IAAF will now recommend that the Lisbon laboratory lose its

icence to test. The council added that it elieved a further analysis of the sample could have pro-vided a final resolution of the matter but that "it was not

ment of doubt existed. "Obviously it cannot be proven this was a doping of-fence, so there is no case to Asked whether the Modahls might have recourse to repar-ations from the IAAF, Gyulai

council listens to all requests and ideas. The Modahls

matter acted impeccably within the rules but that he was aware of and the loss of money inflicted on the Modahls.

bribery scandal Gyulai admitted that the case would lead athletes to doubt the whole dope-testing process. "Maybe, in the long run, our decision here will give athletes assurance that a just decision can be reached in the end. I hope we are set ting a precedent that the rest of the athletic world

# Le beau jeu comes off



Richard Williams

ever saw a football match but Nicolas de Staël certainly did. It was in 1952, at the Parc des Princes, a friendly between France and Sweden, and it inspired Cé-zanne's most brilliant disciple to the creation of a series of wonderfully evocative paint-ings. De Staël saw the game through eyes that had turned the beaches of the Var and the country roads of Brittany into shimmering blocks of colour. Cézanne's most brilliant

disciple? No doubt you could find an art critic to disagree. If you think people argue about football, you should hear them squabble about art. But you don't need much time with De Stall to see why he is Eric Cantona's favourits painter, There's a spontaneity and a generosity in his work that makes his suicide in 1955 seem mystifying. And, like Cé-zanne, De Staël could change the way you look at familiar things, even a football match. French football is, after all,

one of the decorative arts. We aren't in the habit of giving it much consideration beyond that assumption, despite Cantona's pivotal role in the recent history of our own game. David Ginola's flickering contribution to Newcas-tie's assault on the title only confirms the stereotype of something beautiful but eva-nescent. When we think of French football as a whole, if we think of it at all, we remem ber the glorious team led by Michel Platini in the mid-Righties, the team of Giresse. Tigana, Amoros and Rocheteau, their bright promise be-trayed in the 1982 World Cup seing decision of all time. After that, not much, if you overlook the shaming of Olympique Marsellle, whose European Cup win of 1983 was tainted by the subsequent

FET here we are, apfinals of the three European club chan find? France with a club in each of the three competition - a role once occupied by England, whose sole remaining

last week, and more recently by Italy, which has only one left. And the temptation must be to look beyond coincidence to the emergence of some new factor, some shift in the balance of power. In the European Cup, need

ng to beat Juventus to meet Ajax or Panathinaikos in the final, are Nantes — not a name to ring many bells with British fans but good enough to have beaten Spartak Moscow. conquerors of Blackburn Rovers, in the quarter-final Seven times champions in a 50-year history, the club enjoys a marvellous reputation as a fountain of talent. This is the nursery that produced three current stars of the Ital-ian league: Milan's Marcel De-sailly, Juventus's Didier Deschamps and Sampdoria's Christian Karembeu, who are joined in the current French national selection by another Nantes old boy, Patrice Loko of Paris Saint-Germain, and by two members of the current squad, Nico Ouedec and Jean-Michel Ferri.

PSG are France's represen tatives in the Cup Winners' Cup, having beaten Parma to reach the last four. PSG, too, have lost several big stars in recent years, notably George Weah to AC Milan and Ginola to Newcastle. But the Parc des Princes is still the home of such considerable talents as Youri Djorkaeff, the current ensation of the national team Rai, the Brazilian playmaker, and Loko.

HE third club, Bor-deaux, created the greatest excitement by overcoming a two-goal deficit from the first leg to beat Milan and reach the semifinal of the Uefa Cup. Even in the knowledge that Italians care only about the European Cup, this was a terrific achievement — and a tribute to the leadership of their captain, a gifted little Basque with the most emphonious name in world football, Bixente Lizerazu. His team in-cludes Christophe Dugarry and Zinedine Zidane, also in portant members of Aimé Jacquet's national squad. Zidane, Djorkaefi and Loko

are the men keeping Cantona, Ginola and Jean-Pierre Papin out of the side as *les Bleus* approach the European Champi onship with a confidence that must make them the best out-side bet after Croatia. And with the 1998 World Cup on the horizon, and a new national stadium going up in Saint-Denis, things are look-ing good for French football in general. It's a pity Nicolas De Staël isn't around to capture it but the players are painting the pictures now.

100

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#### The dogged back-room team who forced a positive result

clarifying doubts and that the | said there was no official po-

Duncen Mackey

but behind her a team of doctors, scientists and lawyers worked non-stop for 19 months under the direction of her husband Vicente to prove her innocence

Malcolm Brown, Britain's official team doctor at najor events like the Olympics and world champion-hips, put his job on the line by continuing to sup-port her. "The fact that someone who had that much to lose was prepared to stand by me gave me strength," said Modahl. But it was Professor

Simon Gaskell, from the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, who came up with the evidence to clear He first persuaded a Brit-

in Portugal. Then on the ONLY Diane Modahi ing, he found the final plece in the ligsaw when he accused of a doping offence transformed one of Modahl's samples from inno-cent to guilty. Like many within the scientific com-munity, Gaskell was outraged at what he saw as a miscarriage of justice.

Professor Paul Talalay, an expert on degradation. even travelled from America at his own expense to support Modahl at her ap-peal hearing, saying it was a moral issue and his conwould not let him

Finally there was the legal team led by Tony Morton-Hooper, a partner at the Princess of Wales's law-yers, Mishcon de Reya, and professionalism, unselfish dedication, commitment and motivation, despite the difficulty of having to deal ish appeal panel that it was possible for bacteria in samples badly stored to create a positive test, as Mo- Modahl.

The First (assistant director) is a short, bearded, psychotic, Spaniard. He is the rudest man I have ever met (apparently this is normal for a First). He shouts, he

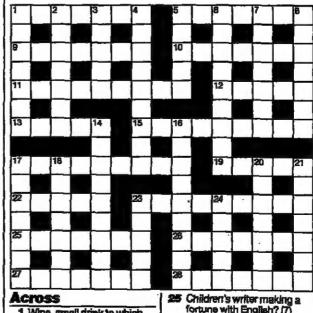
screams, he gesticulates wildly.

G2 page 4

#### Guardian Crossword No 20,610

Set by Hendra

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- 1 Wine, small drink to which some guys are attached (4-3) 5 Two-seater wedding con-veyance, going by sir? (7)
- 9 III-matched with a French turns out (7)
- 11 Hayseed for a mountain-12 A London court of noblemer
- language? (5) 15 Wicked four in sea-trip (9) 17 He found himself winning on

13 Speech sound in Tewana's

- the peois! (9) 19 Letterto doctorfor a lozenge
- 22 French writer reversing into tree (5) 23 Hip-replacement recently? Hobby required! (9)
- 26 Brave to take a crack with a 27 Behold! Hated terribly (7)
- 28 How like Heather to have one company in dire distress (7)

#### Down

- 1 Time enough, perhaps, to make stout (7) 2 Isle of Wight features almost
- 3 Best black lead (5) 4 Driving course with game associations (4-5) 5 Bristling, hard at work
- around hospital (5) 6 Ganymede as holder of trophy? (3-6)
- 8 Self-regarding sorts chewing stogles (7)

14 Middle-gear selected when overheating (9) 16 Rivet in safe act to open? (9) 17 One of twin air-intakes

below a bridge (7) 18 Type most commonly taking European republic (7)

20 Herbruns rings round 21 Early days of Elizabethan favourite, as depicted by

23 Appeal to president to show

the way (5) 24 Dramatic plece for violin (5)

Solution tomorrow.

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